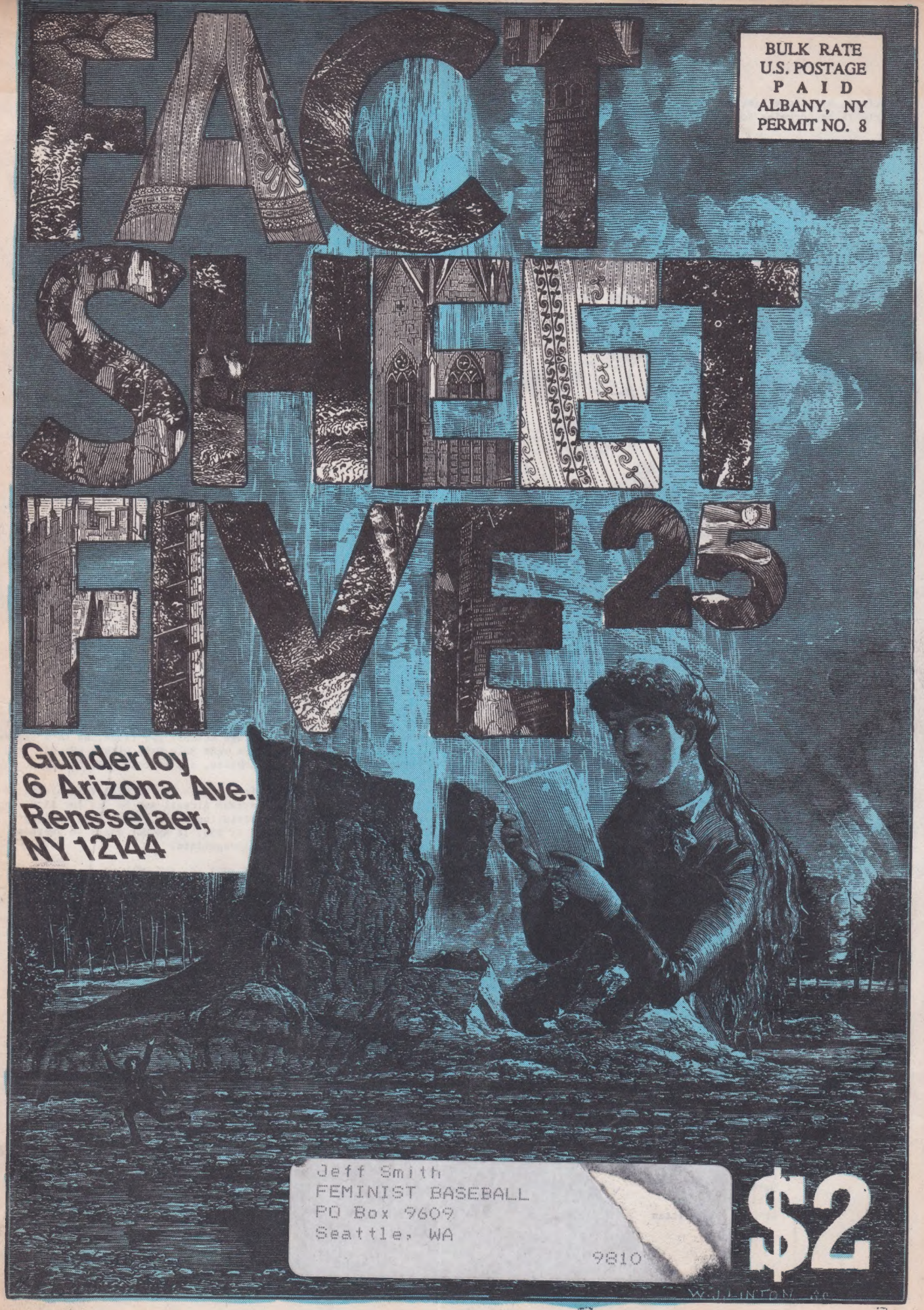
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Gunderloy
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Rensselaer,
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Jeff Smith
FEMINIST BASEBALL
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Seattle, WA
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WILLINGTON

ADD CORR REQ

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St. Stephen Xavier of Trever

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FACTSHEET FIVE is published four times a year, appearing in the mails during the first week of February, May, August and November. Subscriptions are available at $2.00 (cash, check, Money Order or mint US postage stamps) per issue, up to 4 issues in advance. These copies are sent Bulk Mail within the US, First Class to Canada and Mexico, and Surface Mail overseas.

First class subscriptions within the US are available at $2.75 per issue, while Overseas Airmail may be had for $5.00 per issue. A Lifetime Subscription, with First Class mailing anywhere on the continent, is $50. If anyone wants an Overseas Lifetime Subscription, I'll negotiate.

Deadlines for FACTSHEET FIVE are the 20th of January, April, July and October.

FACTSHEET FIVE advertising space is available as follows:

	Unreduced	To be reduced
Full Page	7 1/2" x 9 3/4"	11 1/4" x 14 3/4"
Half Page	7 1/2" x 4 3/4"	11 1/4" x 7 1/4"
Half Page	3 3/4" x 9 3/4"	5 1/2" x 14 3/4"
Quarter Page	3 3/4" x 4 3/4"	5 1/2" x 7 1/4"
Eighth Page	3 3/4" x 2 1/4"	5 1/2" x 3 1/4"
Business Card	2 1/4" x 2"	3 1/2" x 3"

Copy for FACTSHEET FIVE is reduced to 66% of its original linear dimensions. The first column shows width by height for ads to be run exactly as submitted, without reduction. The second column shows width by height for ads to be reduced along with the rest of the publication. Current advertising rates are:

Full Page	$75.00
Half Page	$40.00
Quarter Page	$25.00
Eighth Page	$12.50
Business Card	$ 7.50

Ads which are paid in advance for two or more insertions may take a 20% discount from the above prices.

A glossary of unusual terms used in FF is available for a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Factsheet Five

Welcome to another issue of the zine of crosscurrents and cross-pollination. Available by mail or in person from Mike Gunderloy, 6 Arizona Ave., Rensselaer, NY 12144-4502; phone (518)-479-3086 (no calls after 10PM EST); 300 baud phone (518)-479-3879 (call anytime). This is Pretzel Press publication #732, and is intended for direct Bulk Mailing to subscribers and good people across the country, around the world, and right into your face. Press run: 2500 copies. 25th issue, February 1988.

*****

This is where I explain the mailing code, on the far right of the first line of the address label.

A number indicates the last issue that you'll be getting. So if the number is "25", you need to Do Something if you want to keep getting FF. If the number is "25" and you don't even know why you got this, you probably have a Secret Admirer or something. Wanna subscribe?

"+" indicates that you've got nothing to worry about, because you're on the staph, you won a contest, or you just got lucky.

"A" means that you're getting this because of your artwork; either you sent me some or I want you to send me some, or both.

"B" means I'm trading for a book you sent.

"D" means that you're a distributor and so you get one copy for yourself as a freebie. I'm looking for new distributors, people who think they can sell at least ten copies and want to split the proceeds. Distributors get a 40% wholesale discount on all copies, and may sell on consignment. The number after the colon is how many copies I think I'm sending you.

"L" means that you are a Lifetime Subscriber, and therefore exempt from nonsense. Lifetime subscribers get their issues sent First Class. They also got free copies of NOTES OF A NEON GRINGO when it came out, and will receive free copies of Anni's book when it's available. Really, it's a great deal. Right now we're up to 11 lifetime subscribers, but there's always room for one more.

"M" means you sent me music to review, or that you promised to send me music in the future. I usually allow 2 issues for a single, 3 for a tape, or 4 for an LP, but I screw up a bit, so let me know if you're owed more. (Or less).

"P" means you're a prisoner. FACTSHEET FIVE is always free to prisoners, but you need to keep in touch to keep getting it, otherwise I'll assume the copies aren't getting through to you. Wardens, you gotta pay like anyone else. Prisoners in mental institutions are extended the same privileges as those in allegedly-saner criminal institutions.

"R" means that this is a review/checking copy. It is for you to have to check the review I've done of your zine, or to be able to do a review of mine. I would like to see further copies of yours for future review. I will continue to send you R copies as long as I stay on your mailing list, whether you write reviews or not. If you're infrequent, I expect at least a note every six months to keep you on the mailing list. "R?" means that I'd like you to consider sending copies of your zine in return for review/checking copies of mine.

Any of the above followed by a number (like "M/25") indicate the issue you'll have to renegotiate to keep getting FF. YOU MUST GET IN TOUCH WITH ME AT LEAST ONCE EVERY TWO ISSUES, REGARDLESS OF THE MAILING CODE, TO CONTINUE GETTING FF! THIS APPLIES TO PRISONERS, ARTISTS, TRADERS, EVERYONE! Send me your zine, drop me a line, do SOMETHING so I know you're still out there. Actually, this doesn't apply to subscribers, only to people getting the zine for free. Clear?

Please take a moment to check your mailing label. If there are any mistakes, you have to let me know. They won't fix themselves. And you won't get any further warning if your subscription has run out.

And remember, FF is sent BULK MAIL. Not only does this make it slow (though, I hope, not TOO slow), but it means undeliverable copies go to that Big Post Office In The Sky. So PLEASE get your COAs to me promptly to avoid missing issues. I am not responsible for copies lost due to unannounced moves.

*****

Subscription rates are on the Staph page, but here they are again: $2.00 (cash, check, money order or US stamps) per issue for a regular sub. Those in the US can subscribe for $2.75 an issue and get FF delivered First Class instead of Bulk Mail. Those overseas can get Airmail delivery for $5 per issue. Any of these rates are good for up to 4 issues in advance, protecting you from price rises for a full year. Send money for more than 4 issues and I'll take it as a welcome donation. (Be sure to specify if you're sending money for a 1st class subscription!)

If anyone wants to buy a lifetime subscription (lifetime of the magazine, that is), I'll sell you one for $50. Or make me a reasonable offer of trade or barter.

Thanks to J.C. Brainbeau, Rian Fike, Dave Mandl, Linda Meadows, Pressurized Sperm Aerosol, Ralf, Joe Schwind, Robert Soderberg, Ken Sutherland, the Wallmen, David Williams and Donna Young for their generous donations towards publishing this issue.

IMPORTANT NOTE: I do NOT accept used postage stamps in payment!

If you want FF sent to a friend, just send me their address and $2, or $2.75 if you're in a hurry. FF makes a great Christmas, birthday, or Bar Mitzvah present. I'll mark it as a gift from you unless you specify otherwise.

In lieu of sending stamps, money, fanzines, artwork, books, or music, you can get FF by sending me something to review that I haven't seen before, or by bartering dangerous drugs, canned goods, or negotiable securities.

Thanks to Herb Ashe, Bag of Water, Jon Bekken, Bob Black, Brian Blight, Mykel Board, Remy Chevalier, Tim Cridland, William Dockery, Jim Downard, Vicki Ellett, Thornton Kimes, Bob Konshak, Bruce Lawler, Nancy Lebovitz, Lawrence Livermore, Matt Love, Fred Mills, Edward Mycue, Walt Noiseux, John Rininger, Val Salvo, Allen Sawyer, Joe Schwind, Jim Shred, Joe Singer, Hal Speer, Mycall Sunanda, Ken Sutherland, Dallas Swan, Jim Testa, Doran Wanker, Barb Warr, Martin Morse Wooster and A.J. Wright for sending zines for me to review in this issue. I'd also like to specially thank Elayne Wechsler for passing along much of her fanzine collection to my library -- it's not tax- deductible yet, but I still think this is a good cause.

What won't work is sending too little money, non-credible threats, or just begging. Sorry, them's the breaks.

THREE THINGS YOU SHOULD NOTICE

* I've finished my MS thesis, and anyone who wants a copy is welcome to buy one. See the NEWS section for details.

* There's a collected book of Anni's columns coming, and I'm taking advance orders at $4. See NEWS for more details.

* FACTSHEET FIVE T-Shirts are now available for $8. See NEWS for a picture and details.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS:

* APA-TAROT has been captured by Sheila Wilding, 17645 Via Sereno, Los Gatos, CA 95030.
* ASP and Crawling With Tarts have crawled to 985 Pine St. #10, San Francisco, CA 94108.
* BACK TO 15HEAD and Tom Wilson are now at 1120 Commonwealth Ave. #9, Boston, MA 02134.
* BLATCH and Jim Blanchard have relocated to PO Box 20321, Seattle, WA 98102
* BRICK PILLOW rest his head at 1321 N S E Mall Way #113, Everett, WA 98208.
* CLAQUE and Chris Beneke are conspiring at 413 W. 17th St. #5, Lawrence, KS 66044-4133.
* COMMUNITY 3 RECORDINGS are now at 416 E. 13th St. #12, New York, NY 10009-3739.
* CRAWL OR DIE and editor Scott Miller have crawled off to PO Box 375, Bradford, MA 01830-0375.
* DECENTRALIZE! and Carol Moore have infiltrated PO Box 3531, Georgetown Stn., Washington, DC 20007.
* DREAMS AND NIGHTMARES and David C. Kopaska-Merkle swam over to 740 River St., Troy, NY 12180.
* THE FREEDOM WRITER is now at PO Box 539, Great Barrington, MA 01230.
* GET STUPID! and Dr. Ahmed Fishmonger have hurriedly relocated c/o Rob Chalfen, 25 Grant St., Cambridge, MA 02138.
* HOT FLASHES and Bob Trammell have sped over to 3615 Brown Apt. B, Dallas, TX 75219.
* McClintock Books has switched to PO Box 1949, Warren, OH 44482-1949.
* MIND BLASTER and The Remote Control Institute have zapped out to PO Box 3108, Scottsdale, AZ 85257-0060.
* THE MORAL VOLCANOE is erupting from Mike the Bike's new turf at 2113 Bryant Ave. S #2, Minneapolis, MN 55405.
* MOONCIRCLES cirled around to 4807 50th Ave. S., Seattle, WA 98115-1539.
* THE MYSTERY FANCIER and Guy Townsend are at 407 Jefferson St., Madison, IN 47250-3425.
* PUDDLEDIVER has resurfaced at PO Box 3107, Minneapolis, MN 55403-0107.
* REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING has a new house with Glenn Hauser, PO Box 1684, Enid, OK 73702-1684.
* ROAR-SHACK and A.C. Samish have relocated to 3110 Guadelupe, Austin, TX 78705-2821.
* SERPENTDREAM has slithered off to Loc Studios, PO Box 701, Silverado Canyon, CA 92676.
* VAPID stares out of PO Box 238, Navarro, CA 95463.
* XKURZHEN SOUND can be heard at State House PO Box 207, Boston, MA 02133.

Remember, since it costs me 30 cents just to get your COA if the Post Office tells me, and remailing your FF would cost me the price of another copy plus first class postage (they don't return whole issues, just covers), I'm not inclined to send you a replacement when this happens. If you want to keep your collection current, send me your Change of Address as soon as you know it!

LOST ADDRESSES:

Anyone got a current address for these?

* & THEN, who sent me a very nice little zine that doesn't have their address anywhere on it. Editors, don't let this happen to you!
* SCREAM (the one that used to be in Columbia).

DEAD ZINES:

All of the following have ceased publication lately.

* BENTWOOD
* COLLECTIVE NETWORKER (but a new collective may be forming -- call Jay at 415-563-7088 if you're interested.)
* THE DANGEROUS TIMES
* EMANCIPATION (its parent organization, the Anarchist Association of the Americas, is completely out of business. Too bad, but I'm sure the members will pop up on other projects.)
* THE HARDER THEY FALL
* HEATHEN SCIENCE MONITOR
* MOCKREVIEWZ
* POLLUTION CONTROL (unless someone else volunteers to take over from Mark & Penny)
* RUNESTONE
* SPEW AND REVIEW (Watch for THE BEST OF SPEW & REVIEW)
* WORDS AND MUSIC (though there should be another zine coming out of Station WCBN, 530SAB, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, sooner or later.)
* X,Y,Z

CORRECTION SECTION:

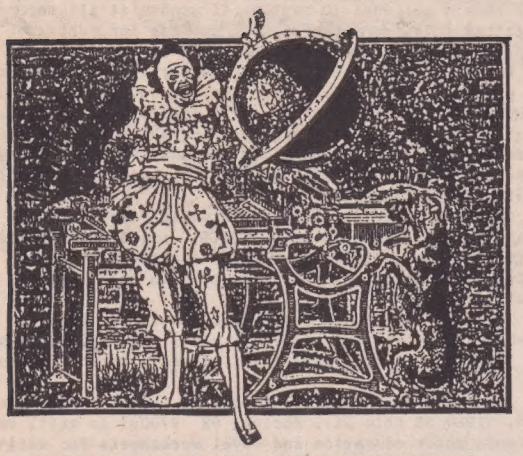
We all make mistakes. I seem to have made a lot last issue. Here's the real news.

* FUCKED SHIT FIVE, an anonymous parody of FF, does not in fact come from the address I printed. I guess the perpetrators didn't want to stand behind their product. But I still find it funny, so for a buck I'll xerox and send you a copy of this minicomic-sized zine.
* MIND THEATRE, contrary to what I printed, can be reached at PO Box 1408, Station A, London, ONT N6A 5M2, CANADA. So if you tried writing this wonderful art zine and they didn't answer, please try again.
* My review of POPULAR REALITY in #23 was not only more biased than usual, but substantially in error as far as the facts go. Please check out the revised review in this issue, written in somewhat less haste.

T-SHIRTS:

Yes, they're still coming. This time around, we've the following additions to my wardrobe. Remember, I love to advertise for the lunatic fringe, and the preferred size is Medium.

* AFM (18 NW 100 St., Miami, FL 33150) sent along another custom-crafted shirt. The design is a lovely abstract in black, yellow, and fluorescent pink, centered on the heart attack region below the left shoulder. I look forward to weather warm enough to wear it. The Alterior Facial Mandala project is into non-commodity exchange. That means there's no price on these one-off products. Rather, send them something neat and they'll send you something neat.
* FACTSHEET FIVE T-Shirts are now available! Designed by Freddie Baer, they feature an appropriately enigmatic image of the small press, and come on a brilliant yellow shirt in your choice of colors. The illustration here doesn't do the original justice; the photoreduction lost a lot of detail. Trust me on this one and send your $8 in to help out the zine, help out a fine artist, and get a nifty shirt to wear to the major social events of the season.



FACTSHEET FIVE

* Ferret (who, just in case you're new here, forgetful, or brain-damaged, did the covers for FF24) sent me one of his new shirts. This time they tie in with ALLIGATOR ALLEY, a riotously fun story recently published in NEW PATHWAYS, as Gonzo a piece of SF as ever there was. Anyhow, the shirt at hand is red on black, featuring a snarling saurian in a cowboy hat along with assorted weaponry and palm trees, and is captioned "Tour Alligator Alley, Smile Like a Reptile." This is the budget model for reviews, but the two-color version is available for $14 from Mark Ziesing Books, PO Box 806, Willimantic, CT 06226.

* Mike Froerer ($10 for B&W, $15 for color from 30,000 Hasley Cyn. Rd. #33, Saugus, OH 91384) sent along an example of his spraypainted shirts. You may have seen some of his stuff in LCD. Though you wouldn't think of a spraycan as an artist's tool, in Mike's hands it becomes sort of a wide airbrush, and his stark angular figures are the ideal message for the medium. Impressively artistic with a decidedly new-wave flavor. That's one in the other column.

* POSITIVE PEER PRESSURE ($8 from 16835 Algonquin #211, Huntington Beach, CA 92649) sent along this beautiful bright blue "DRUGS? NO!" shirt. The message is repeated front and back, with the PPP logo is on one sleeve and "Some choices, once made, need never be swayed!" on the other. The overall effect is to leave no doubt at all where one stands. Other designs available include "It's OK Not to Drink!" and "It's Cool Not to Drink!"

* SPLEEN PRESS (323 Locust Rd., Winnetka, IL 60093-3610) does custom T-Shirts in laundary marker for $7.50, or will swap for another new T-shirt. Each is an original artwork -- mine is sort of vaguely stfnal, with a few Ouroboros serpents and a sort of cosmic hand reacching out. It's not a polished production, but will definitely provoke comment. Artist Karl Anderson says, "if you send me an underlying theme or mood or subject or reoccuring object I'll more or less include it in the design."

OTHER NEWS:

* Bob Z., promoter of Artists & Writers Underground, has fallen prey to the latest effort of the "authorities" to clean up midtown New York: he's up for $3700 in fines for putting up posters announcing poetry readings on light poles. I guess even though Jello got off, free speech in this country is still in a precarious position. Trial date is set for before you'll get this issue, but if you want to help, you can call me or contact Bob c/o Stop Prosecuting Grass-Roots Organizers (STOP-GRO), 125 E. 23rd St. #300, New York, NY 10010. They particularly need donations to fight this case (checks to "Bob Z") and competent lawyers who will work for a reasonable fee.

* Marla Africa (22 Salmond Rd., Belfast, ME 04915) sent notice of an adult mailart show, "the Largest Erotic M/A Display in Amerika". Deadline is April 1.

* Freddie Baer (PO Box 410151, San Francisco, CA 94141-0151) has produced a wonderful 1988 art calendar. Each month was done by a different underground artist, including AYO Dot, Luna Ticks, Chris Winkler, Bad Boy, and of course Freddie herself. The art and layouts are quite innovative, and best of all, it's only a buck while supplies last.

* BASIC CHOICES (1023 Drake St., Madison, WI 53715-1609), while primarily devoted to adult education, is a useful networking point for many of us. Educator John Ohliger maintains all sorts of interests, from anarchists to Lao Tze to Hitler as an educator. A buck should get you a catalog and some miscellaneous stuff.

* Jake Berry of ABSCOND (2251 Helton Dr. #N-7, Florence, AL 35630) sent me four from a series of "postglyphs". These are postcards featuring art and some words from well-known underground types: Winkler, Miskowski, Polkinhorn, and Dunn. No price listed, but a buck should get you a small pile. Guaranteed to perplex the people you write to.

* Brian Blight (2024 Roseland, Flint, MI 48506) wants to trade photographs, any subject. Send him three and he'll send you three in return. His are color glossy prints, and the subjects (at least in the few he sent me) are generally unposed people.

* BLOTCARDS (424.280 Dundas St. E, Toronto, ONT CANADA) are postcards made out of the covers of old paperback books, with satiric voice balloons added. Maybe a nice note would get you a few.

* The Central American Resource Center (PO Box 2327, Austin, TX 78768) sent its 1987-88 publications catalog. Copy for a stamp, I guess.

* Cerebral Discourse (PO Box 95455, Seattle, WA 98145) is still turning out posters with subtle and elusive anti-System messages. SASE for samples, or send your own creativity.

* Michelle Christiano (103 N. New Jersey Ave., Tampa, FL 33609) helps put together a cable TV show called HOT SEAT, which is distributed in DC, LA, NY, Dallaas and Chicago. She's interested in hearing from fanzine folks who can be in her area to do a show.

* The Church of God Within (Rev. Salamandir, PO Box 2683, Bellingham, WA 98227) has a number of small and colorful tracts available, promoting a religion that seems to be a synthesis of Christianity, the Bhagavad GIta, and a few other things. You're invited to write for details and samples.

* Norman Crowhurst (PO Box 63, Dallas, OR 97338) has a plan for class-action suits against the IRS in every US District Court, aiming to show that the IRS is in fact a private corporation in flagrant violation of the law. For $10 you can get more information and be entered as a co-plaintiff in the appropriate suit. Or for an SASE you can get more information.

* The Crusade to Abolish Traffic Tickets (5410 Wilshire #409, Los Angeles, CA 90036) has a plan to remove those nuisances of driving by swamping the courtrooms -- and to pay off those brave enough to lead the charge. SASE for details.

* Our very own Garry De Young (PO Box 7252, Spencer, IA 51301-7252) has announced his candidacy for the House of Representatives in Iowa's Sixth Congressional District. Inasmuch as the incumbent is Gopher, er, Fred Grandy, this is going to be a tough fight -- so naturally he wants your donations.

* DHARMA COMBAT is an apa forming for discussions about "spirituality, philosophy, metaphysics and religion". $2 for a sample copy entitles you to submit two pages to be published. Write Jim Keith, PO Box 20593, Sun Valley, NV 89433.

* The Second Annual "Dressing for Pleasure" gala will be held in New York on April 23rd, 1988. Some hint of the flavor of this event comes from the dress code: "Clothing of leather, latex, vinyl and corsetry should be visible for Saturday evening cocktails, dinner and dance." More information for an SASE from Constance Enterprises, PO Box 43277, Upper Montclair, NJ 07043.

* Feminists for Life of America (811 E. 47th St., Kansas City, MO 64110) are a "Prolife Feminism" organization. Write for more info.

* Floating World (742 N. Cherokee, Hollywood, CA 90038-3506) sent along another printout of their stock of records and zines, mainly imports, all indies. SASE for a copy, I guess.

* Focus on Animals (PO Box 150, Trumbull, CT 06611) is a new distribution service for films dealing with animal rights, vegetarianism, and related topics. They have various offerings available on 16mm, 1/2 and 3/4" video tapes. Write for details or their catalog.

* John Galt, Jr. (PO Box 85874, Seattle, WA 98145-1874) has produced a new poster, "Give me Liberty or Give me Head", a manifesto for the Youth Decadence Campaign. SASE for a copy.

* Gizmo Stress (PO Box 1153, Russellville, AL 35633) has come up with a couple of provocative posters that hint towards the overthrow of most everything without actually saying much. An SASE should get you samples.

* John Held, Jr. (Fine Arts Division, Dallas Public Library, 1515 Young St., Dallas, TX 75201) is putting together "An Annotated Bibliography of Mail Art." The deadline is March 1st, if you want to send him articles about mail art that you've written or been mentioned in.

* The High Flight Foundation (PO Box 1387, Colorado Springs, CO 80901-9958) is ex-astronaut Jim Irwin's Christian evangelical organization, dedicated to (among other things) finding the Ark on Mt. Ararat. A polite postcard should get you more information.

* Sean Wolf Hill (1922 Emerson St., Dayton, OH 45406) is starting a "Many-2-Many" (or, as some prefer, an apa) to discuss anything and everything. Initial plans call for 40 people to be involved and a nominal deposit of $4 to hold a place. Write to Sean for details on joining and contributing.

* The Himalayan Institute of Yoga Science and Philosophy of the U.S.A. (RR 1, Box 400, Honesdale, PA 18431) sent along their Fall "Guide to Programs and Other Offerings" -- available on request. It lists books and tapes for sale, gives dates, times and other information for upcoming New Age courses, and even includes a little essay from Swami Rama himself on the benefits of jogging.

* David Hynds (5639 Worth St., Dallas, TX 75202) is attempting to put together a video apa and a video chain letter. He sent me a little VHS blurb that basically asks people to send him video letters for the project. He also books experimental video for the Starck Club in Dallas.

* Imaginaction III is the 11th Annual Conference of the Alliance for Cultural Democracy, to be held in San Francisco from Feb. 19-21, 1988. The ACD is a group of cultural workers and activist artists. More information can be had by calling (415)-845-7111.

* The Human Suffering Index ($5 from Population Crisis Committee, 1120 19th St. NW, Washington, DC 20036) is a graphic wall map showing where in the world things are best and worst, based on things like the literacy rate, infant mortality rate, and energy consumption. The PCC is a voluntary family-planning group, so obviously they're concerned about the relation between this figure and the birth rate.

* The Immortalist Society (24041 Stratford, Oak Park, MI 48237) is an organization devoted to spreading the word about cryonic suspension for people who hope to be revived in the future, after "modern" medical science has given up on them. Associate Membership is $18/yr, or they have a 26-page introductory booklet titled "A Few Minutes Now Could Save Your Life Tomorrow" which I'd say is worth about $2.50.

* Institute/Mystical Illusion (829 Orion Ave., Metairie, LA 70005) sent me a bunch of posterist thingies. Some of them are quite fascinating, including the plot to blow out the phone system on New Year's Eve and "Who Are the Brain Police?" Samples probably available for any reasonable donatiohn. SubGenoid and Discordian overtones.

* The Justice Advocate (Box 3125, Denver, CO 80201) has joined the growing list of protestors from all parts of the ideological spectrum protesting the I-9 form, which de facto establishes a national ID system. If you're at all interested in fighting this, send them a buck and ask for copies of their #206 plus whatever other info they care to send.

* Sharon Kowalski still can't see her lover and the court cases are still going on. If you don't know about this case, you should -- there's a lot of civil rights issues tied up in it, but they boil down to parents being able to run the life of a severely-injured grown woman because they don't like her own chosen associates. SASE for info to Karen Thompson, 10599 44th St., Clear Lake, MN 55319.

* Christian Larrede, Ecole Maternelle Pierre-Trebod, Cite du Grand-Parc, 33300 Bordeaux, FRANCE) writes for a French pfanzine and does a radio show. He's anxious to swap for American music zines, and promises to give them lots of publicity.

* THE LAST DAYS (On Request from PO Box 40, Lindale, TX 75771-0040), a Christian millenial zine, recently published their gala Tenth Anniversary Issue. There's something wrong here...

* The Learning Unlimited Network of Oregon (LUNO - Gene Lehman, 31960 SE Chin St., Boring, OR 97009) is still turning out tracts about education and novel worksheets for word-play and -learning. Gene has definite ideas about making education fun and interesting and not just for kids. Try swapping your own original stuff for his.

* Libertarian International (9308 Farmington Dr., Richmond, VA 23229) is an outreach organization spanning 40 countries, and promoting governmentless solutions to international problems. Membership is $20, and includes a subscription to FREEDOM NETWORK NEWS.

* Mafundi's Defense Committee (PO Box 955, Birmingham, AL 35201) is organizing an effort to release activist Richard Mafundi Lake from a life-without-parole sentence in the state prison system. An SASE should get you details.

* W. Mann (#01571-081, PO Box 1000, Milan, MI 48160), a self-alleged "political prisoner", sent me a packet of various papers purporting to prove that blacks are still slaves, that the Supreme Court is a fake, and that we have "effective anarchy" in government. I can't make heads nor tails out of his stuff, but he's looking for interested investigative reporters to expose various moperies and doperies.

* Scott Miller (PO Box 375, Bradford, MA 01830-0375) is offering free minicomic publishing. Write for details.

* Anarchist prisoner Avi Naftel has drawn another two years in a plea-bargained escape charge, so he's back at PO Box B-45287, Florence, AZ 85232. For more information on his case, write to Project 1313, PO Box 1313, Lawrence, KS 66044.

* If anyone's interested, membership in the National Association of Desktop Publishers is $95 a year. You can get in touch with them at PO Box 508, Kenmore Stn., Boston, MA 02215-9919.

* Dan Pilla (704 Edgerton, St. Paul, MN 55101) prints up tracts and handbills promoting jury nullification as a way of getting rid of unjust laws in the country, particularly the income tax and Marx's other nine planks. 10 copies for 4 22-cent stamps.

* The POPULAR REALITY ADVENTURE CATALOG (PO Box 3402, Ann Arbor, MI 48106) shows that David Crowbar is still busy in the publishing business, with books from Jack Saunders, John Crawford, Gerry Reith and a few others for sale. A stamp or two will get you a copy.

* New Rage (PO Box 11492, Eugene, OR 97440) is still producing posters that condemn the modern world from a Situationist point of view. SASE for samples.

* Scripture of the Week is a series of nicely calligraphed color postcards, available from Peter Wannemacher, Rt. 19 Box 3510, Conroe, TX 77303. Inquire for costs.

* Membership in the Small Magazine Publisher's Group is $25 a year, including a subscription to their magazine. Write to them c/o the Farmstead Press, One Maine St., Freedom, ME 04941.

* Sons of the Green Light (PO Box 6747, 1591 Third Ave., Yorkville Stn., New York, NY 10128) have one of the most hilarious New Age recruiting pamphlets I've seen in a long time, with a class sytem of spirituality (some of us as "terrestrial beings" and others are "celestial beings"...guess which type skeptics are?) and references to "Laser beans" and other technological foofooraw. No price listed, but a buck or a nice nut letter should get you a copy.

* Spilled Ink (PO Box 70672, Seattle, WA 98107-0672) sent along their Summer/Fall 1987 catalog. They sell literary and art magazines through the mail, though the definition stretches widely enough to include Morty the Dog as well as more mainstream small press stuff. They're looking for more zines in need of distribution.

* The Telephone Action Network (PO Box 149, Florence, MA 01060) is trying to organize a sort of phone tree -- only it will be used for political pressure rather than communication. The idea is to tie up selected politicians' phones to let them know people are upset. Send them an SASE if you're interested in signing up.

* The United States Citizen's Commission on Corruption in Government and Industry (PO Box 9, Purcellville, VA 22132) is hunting for news on "misconduct by elected and appointed public officials or their unethical collusion with private companies." Or for fifty bucks you can become a member of the Commission youself.

* "VISUALIZE IMPEACHMENT" is the slogan on a new bumper sticker available from the Plutonium Players ($1 and a stamp from 1600 Woolsey St., Berkeley, CA 94703). A stunning white on deep blue, it's popular in the Bay Area but should be on the rear of New Agers everywhere. And as they point out, "it will come back in style again and again".

*****

FACTSHEET FIVE PROJECTS:

* FACTSHEET FIVE T-Shirts, designed by Freddie Baer, are now available for a measley $8 postpaid. Specify size or we'll send you whatever we feel like. Think of the possibilities for starting a conversation!

* I now have a new set of FACTSHEET FIVE ads available, alsotypeset and put together by the incomparable Freddie Baer. In the future I may swap or pay for some of these to be published, but meanwhile if you want to give me a free plug write and I'll send you a copy.

* @NARCHONOTES 3 is an account of my participation in the second annual continental anarchist gathering, which was held in Minneapolis last June. It includes my own thoughts plus a selection of the newspaper coverage, including quotes from and pictures of yours truly. If you're interested, you can buy a copy for $1.50.

* I am still offering the FACTSHEET FIVE mailing list on self-adhesive labels. This issue's list of over 1500 names is available for $45. If you prefer, you can get the list on plain paper for $20. I can also provide specialty lists (all fanzines, all distributors, all music zines, all artists, or whatever else you can come up with) for 5 cents a name on labels or 3 cents a name on paper.

* I am also prepared to offer the mailing list or the contents of FF itself (sans art) on IBM-PC compatible DSDD diskettes. The mailing list is one diskette and I'll include the shareware DBMS I use on a second diskette. FF itself also takes up two diskettes. You can get either package of two diskettes for $12, or all four diskettes for $20.

* If anyone doesn't want their name given out on mailing labels or diskette, please let me know.

* The Gemstone File is a conspiratorial mishmash of theories that have been circulating in samisdat form around the US. I have copies of six different versions (something over 90 pages total) available for $8.00 total to those interested in this sort of thing -- and I'm looking for more versions if you have any. (See the BOOKS section in FF22 for more precise details on this item. One short variant has been added since that review was written.)

* Martti Koski's MY LIFE DEPENDS ON YOU, an account of RCMP mind control experiments, is available for $1.

* NOTES OF A NEON GRINGGO, a booklet of writings by the one and only Kerry Thornley, is now available. This is 24 pages of Kerry's collected columns from past FFs, with collage art by Freddie Baer. Believe me, it looks spiffy. $3 a copy, and 75% of the profits are going to Kerry.

* The FF ZINE EXCHANGE has been a great success this past quarter. ZINE EDITORS: If you're at all interested in having samples of your zine go to people who don't even know you exist, send as many as you want to me to distribute. The rest of you: Send me an SASE with 22 cents to $2.40 postage and I'll stuff it with whatever I have laying about ($2.40 is enough to mail a couple of pounds in the country, so use a decent-sized envelope). You might also take note of Merritt Clifton's (SAMISDAT) standing offer to sell you as many pounds as poetry as you want for a buck a pound. Anyhow, remember, send a SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE to minimize the work I have to do. I mean it. The next person who sends a blank envelope and a check, instead of buying the stamps himself and pasting them on, is going to get something nasty in the mail. If he gets anything at all.

* I recently acquired a few remaindered copies of Jim Hougan's SECRET AGENDA, a book which I personally consider a "must have" for modern conspiracy buffs. Hougan is an experienced reporter who takes a long hard look at Watergate, exposing the inconsistencies in Woodward & Bernstein's story (and incidentally taking a look at Deep Throat's identity) and proposing a quite plausible alternative explanation that makes Nixon out to be a patsy. He also takes a passing look at the original Gemstone File kept by Liddy. Published at $19.95, 350 hardcover pages -- I can let you have a copy for $5 postpaid while they last. I'm down to about five copies, so be sure to tell me what to do with your money in case I've sold out.

* I'm not reviewing hate literature in print any more, to preserve the sensibilities of some of my readers. But I still receive some. If you're interested, send an SASE for the current unpublished reviews.

* Well, I finally finished my master's thesis, and some of you have been nutty enough to ask if you can buy copies. Well, since you ask, yes. FREDERICK WINSLOW TAYLOR: A CONTEXTUAL EVALUATION, 150 pages (about half double-spaced), with all the scholarly baggage, can be yours for only $15. Sorry the price is so high, but copying this sucker in a small run is expensive. Watch this space for an announcement of my PhD thesis...in about 5 years.

* There will be a collected book of Anni Ackner's columns coming out soon. The format and title aren't set yet, but it will feature all of her writings from FF as well as four new essays, never before published, and new introductory matter. I hope to have it out by the May issue. Until then, I'll take advance orders at $4; it wouldn't surprise me if the actual price is higher.

*****

GETTING ZINES

Just a few hints to consider when you're writing away for fanzines:

* If I list a name in the address for a zine, you ought to make checks or money orders out to that name rather than the zine name. If a zine has odd payment requirements, I try to note this in the address section of the listing. In general, cash is preferable to money orders which are preferable to checks.

* On a related topic, when I put a question mark after the price it means that I'm guessing because the zine editors didn't list a price.

* On zines with a price under $1, it really helps to include a few stamps for postage.

* Canadians generally don't mind receiving U.S. funds, but for other countries you should think about alternative payment. Foreign currency is available at larger banks, and IRCs at your post office. Foreign MOs are also available from the post office, but can take forever to get.

* "Age Statement" means that you should send along a signed note saying that you're over 18 (or over 21, if you are) to help the publisher avoid legal hassles associated with distributing sexually-explicit material.

* I'd appreciate it if you'd mention FACTSHEET FIVE when ordering zines you saw reviewed here. It helps us all in the long run, as the more credibility I build up the more fine zines I'll be able to bring to your attention.

* If you have any problems with a zine please let me know. I'll be happy to contact publishers in cases of non-receipt. 99% of the time it's just a case of things being lost in the mail.

* If you have time, any zine publisher enjoys hearing comments on the zine he has sent you. This is especially true if you didn't like it; we all like to improve. Even a simple note of thanks can make a publisher's day, though.

* Many zine publishers print small quantities, so you may not be able to get the exact issue that I reviewed. If you MUST have that particular issue, say so, and be prepared to pay extra. Otherwise it's best just to request the most recent or the next issue and save trouble for everyone.

THOSE FUNNY NUMBERS

What the little stuff in parentheses after every zine review do is tell you how big the zine is. First comes a letter for the size of the paper. Of course not everyone is in a standard size, but the letter code is at least pretty close:

A3	A3 size, about 11 1/2 x 16 1/4
A4	A4 size, about 8 1/4 x 11 1/2
A5	A5 size, about 5 3/4 x 8 1/4
D	Digest, 5 1/2 x 8 1/2
HL	Half Legal, 7 x 8 1/2
L	Legal, 8 1/2 x 14
M	Mini, 4 1/4 x 5 1/2
MM	Micro, smaller than Mini
O	Oversized, 11 x 17 or thereabouts
S	Standard, 8 1/2 x 11
T	Tabloid, usually 11 x 17, always on newsprint

Then comes a number, which is the number of pages. Last there may be a suffix: "r" means reduced print, "t" means typesetting or laser printing. All clear?

*****

ZINES:

Sometimes people send me ads for zines rather than the zines themselves. Here's the dope:

* KROCKET is a punk rock zine due to debut in February 1988. No price, but they're anxious to trade: c/o Goldfish, pb. 1, 2710 Hoboken, BELGIUM.

Back issues of FACTSHEET FIVE are available as follows:

#1, 2, 3, 4, 17.1	$1 each
#6, 9, 12, 14, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24	$2 each
#5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18	$3 each
Complete set	$45

The first four issues are ditto-printed and much smaller than those to follow. The remaining issues are either the original printing ($2 issues) or xerox copies ($3 issues), which look the same but cost me substantially more to make. All of the issues from #4 through #18 were in digest format, 8 1/2 by 5 1/2 inches. #17.1 was a 4-page supplement to #17. #19 was full-sized, 52 pages. #20 was 64 pages and the first of the current format, and #21 shot up to 80 pages. #22 through #24 were 72 pages.

SALE*SALE*SALE*SALE*SALE*SALE*SALE*SALE*SALE*SALE*SALE*SALE*SALE*

I still have a fair number of the original newsprint issues without color covers, #20-22, left to unload. However, much as I'd like to give 'em away, postage is still expensive, and printing did cost me something. So, a package deal: $1 each in quantities of five or more, mix and match as you please.

AEditorrial

I don't generally use FACTSHEET FIVE as a soapbox, but occasionally I run across something that I think is important. This time around it's the new I-9 form -- you know, the one where you have to prove you're a citizen before you're allowed to have a job (and hence, eat) in this country. I think this is dangerous, pernicious horseshit, and oppose it as strongly as I oppose the draft. People are people, and we ought not to be putting up more walls between Us and Them.

Anyhow, the folks who publish COUNTERATTACK are trying to make this a major issue, and I want to endorse their method. You remember back in WWII when all the Danes worse the Yellow Star of David in solidarity with Danish Jews during the Nazi Occupation? Well, these folks are suggesting we all wear the inverted blue triangle blazoned "illegal" -- the Nazi identifier for "stateless persons" -- in solidarity with those who are under attack by the I-9 form and associated laws.

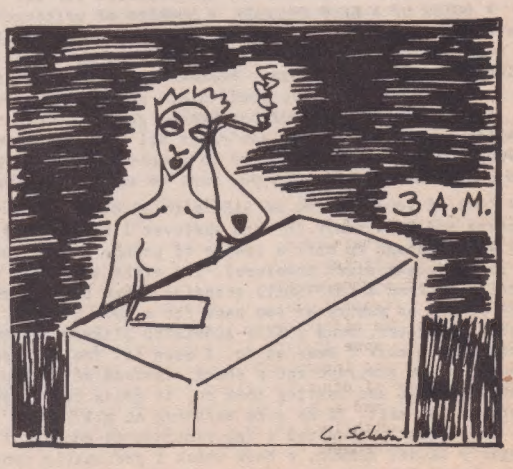
Now, I don't think wearing buttons is going to directly change things. But face it, we can't change things until we wake a few people up, and buttons -- especially if worn constantly -- are a good way to do it. I recommend evading and avoiding the I-9 as far as you can, encouraging others to do likewise, and wearing your ILLEGAL badge everywhere. You can get them for a buck each, or 10 for $5 from Refuse & Resist, 305 Madison Ave. #1166, New York, NY 10165.

On a completely different note, I'd like to thank the fine folks who put out QUIMBY, EARWAX and EUREKA! for sending me complete sets of their respective zines. It's this sort of thing that makes the FACTSHEET FIVE library more valuable to all of us. My entire collection is available for research or just browsing to most anyone who cares to make the trek to Rensselaer; just call or write in advance to set something up. And think about donating a set of your own zine to be preserved for posterity.

Thanks also to those who read my words of financial complaint in the last issue and responded with contributions or ads. Every little bit helps. For your further information, here's how the 1987 balance sheet went down:

1987 income	$7226.58
1987 expenses	$8056.75
Net Loss	-$ 930.17

Peculiar Printing for Particular People or is that... Anyway, all jobs considered but poetry and newsprint are what i do best. **Joe M Singer**, Mother of Ashes Press, P.O. Box 135, Harrison Idaho 83833-0135. Or read **The Printer's Devil** and do-it-yourself for less. Sample copy on request, exchange appreciated.



BITCH #18 ($1.75 from San Jose Face, 478 W. Hamilton Ave. #164, Campbell, CA 95008): "The Woman's Rock Mag With Bite" has one indeed; they don't hesitate to attack those who think women are somehow musically inferior to men, or that all-girl groups are only worth listening to if they wear lowcut dresses. On the other hand, there's no party line here; though past contributions have discussed the idiocy of things like long fingernails, editor Lori Twersky doesn't force interviews and coverage into a "feminist" mold. #18 is especially fun because it's got a page of Q&A with the editor, and a short history of the zine, all of which help tell us where they're coming from. Features in this issue include interviews with Throwing Muses, Debutante, and vocalist Leather. Also feisty letters, notes on bizbitchery, columns, want ads and much more. If it has to do with women in rock, it's in here. (S-64)

*****

BLUEPRINT FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE Vol. XLI #1-4 (Donation from Loyola IHR, Loyola University, Box 12, New Orleans, LA 70118): The Loyola Institute of Human Relations consistently puts out one of the best social activism publications around, month after month. Every issue concentrates on a single problem, setting out the framework of discussion and proposing, sometimes hesitantly, sometimes forcefully, steps to solve it. In #1 Jim Gallese and Jody Shearer look at the pattern of civil rights abuses by the government in this country, and argue that for any of us to be free, all must have the right to talk. #2 tackles the big question of third world debt and looks at ways to keep it from turning into a complete disaster for the developing countries. In #3, Rev. George Greiner considers the moral aspects of SDI and comes up "No Sale". #4 reports on the struggles of a small rank-and-file group to reform the Teamsters. (S-8t)

*****

CHEMICAL IMBALANCE #6 ($3 from Mike McGonigal, PO Box 1656, Cooper Stn., New York, NY 10276): If you must pigeonhole, this is a pfanzine, since Mike manages to interview Scratch Acid and Wire and Girl Trouble and a bunch of other bands. And there are record and tape reviews and a free EP -- the sound quality is terrible, but that doesn't matter because it includes the Leaving Trains doing "Heartbreak Wizard" (lyrics from "Pinball Wizard", music from "Heartbreak Hotel"), sure to be a collectible in the future. But there's a lot more than music here, since Mike is also into alternative comix and art. he scores an interview with Matt Groening (and if you don't know who he is, just look for one-eared rabbits) and prints stuff from Carel Moiseiwitsch and Jim Woodring, great gobs of surreality! Finally, he's defnitely found his editorial 'voice', independent of the punk rock Establishment(s), and isn't afraid to use it. A lot of crossovers for the money. (S-102t)

*****

EXPERIMENTAL MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS Vol. III #1,3-4 ($3.50 from PO Box 784, Nicasio, CA 94946): This one is simply delightful, a journal "for the design, construction and enjoyment of new sound sources". They're not talking about synthesizers, but about new woodwinds, percussion instruments, string instruments and so on -- as well as a few old ones, like the glass harmonica, that never came into wide use. #1 features an article on Ken Butler's Hybrid Instruments, made out of bicycle wheels and old hatchets and other what-not, into truly extraordinary combinations. #3 shows us the slide French horn, an offspring of the French horn and a trombone, which has had some limited big-band success. #4 includes hints on making bamboo instruments of various types. Each issue features lots of other articles, letters from instrument constructors, and a fun-loving approach to sound-making. Well put-together with lots of neat photos and leads to other sources of instrument information. (S-18)

*****

FLIPSIDE #54 ($3 from PO Box 363, Whittier, CA 90608): This is FLIPSIDE's second time in the showcase, but this issue is simply awesome. It's their tenth anniversary special, about half a pound of zine, and it's made up of a retrospective of the first 50 issues of LA's premiere pfanzine. It works on several levels: first, there's the history of the zine (which is a condensed version of the history of pfanzines in general). Second, there's the LA and world punk history that gets worked in. Finally, there are tons of great interviews. Each issue gets its own section, with a short introduction explaining what was going on around then, and then selected interviews and features are reprinted, newly typeset and many with new photographs. Just a few of the nearly 200 groups in this issue: Stiff Little Fingers, DOA, Bangs (who later became the Bangles), Husker Du, UK Subs, SNFU, Anti-Scrunti Faction, China White...the list goes on and on. And it all looks great, done on a new laserjet printer. An indispensable guide for anyone with the slightest interest in how the LA punk scene grew up. (S-224t)

*****

GARGOYLE 32/33 ($7.95 from Paycock Press, PO Box 30906, Bethesda, MD 20814): Bigger is not always better, but in this case, the two go together rather well. Sure, this allegedly twice-yearly litmag seems to only come in double issues, but they're impressive monsters: 300 pages of stories, poems and interviews and another 150 pages of feisty, hard-hitting reviews of other works. FF is not well tied into the literary network, so I'm unable to be sure, but I'd be surprised if there weren't a lot of top names here. This issue is heavy on interviews, seven of them (each running to many pages) from expatriate writer Eduard Roditi to Australian Helen Garner. Among the short fiction, Joanne Findley's "Middle Space" stands out for me, a delightfully playful tale of love and soap bubbles. For poetry the nod must go to Anne Becker's interpretive work on Charles Darwin. There's also a special feature in this issue: Helene Bokanowski's "Memories of Gertrude Stein". If you're at all interested in the shape of American alternative literature today, this is a must-have anthology. (D-480t)

*****

NIGHTMARES OF REASON #3 ($2 from PO Box 278, E. Cambridge, MA 02141): Mic McInnis is making his mark on the small press. Now he's opened a zinestore in Boston and still found time to produce another issue of this fine litmag. It's mainly poetry, although John Bennett and Mic himself contribute short stories, and an unpublished piece of Gerry Reith's gets dug up from somewhere (it does not pay to inquire too deeply into these things). Most of the poetry is from people like Todd Moore and Dennis Gulling and Charles Bukowski: fast-paced screeds of short words that drag the reader straight through hell. NIGHTMARES is like picking at a raw wound to see what's inside, a gripping read all the way through. Also features great full-page Oberc illustrations. (HL-36t)

*****

TRANSNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES Vol. 12 #3 - Vol. 13 #1 ($10/yr from Case Postale 161, 1211 Geneva 16, SWITZERLAND): This journal is trying to consider and to help in world politics. Believing that governments are simply not doing enough to help defuse tensions, editor Rene Wadlow discusses both grassroots movements and organized international groupings like the UN. #3 focuses on the idea of regional security, with an interesting analysis of one possible future for Afghanistan; #1 has the theme "Indigenous and Tribal Societies: Survival and Transformations", considering everything from the Thai Hill peoples to Ethiopian Jews in Israel. Lately they've been reviewing quite a few cassettes as concrete evidence of international cultural exchange at a grassroots level. Academically respectable, bouyantly optimistic, and a place to begin. (A4-48t)

2600 Vol. 4 #10-12 ($2 from PO Box 752, Middle Island, NY 11953): The zine of phone phreaking, hacking and related topics. The technical info tends to be right on the ball, and if they don't know, they'll say so. I'm more interested in the feature articles, like the one in #10 about forthcoming new services in the NYC area in the form of telepornography and related things. #11 & 12 contain a fairly informative series on VM/CMS hacking. (D-24t)

*****

50 PLUS TURNING POINT Vol. 1 #2-4 ($1 from 850 Third Ave., New York, NY 10022): This is sort of like a specialized version of the LETTER EXCHANGE, for people in their fifties and up. Besides a few dozen ads from those wanting correspondents or romance, each issue has stories about being active as one ages and ideas on having fun and meeting people. (S-8t)

*****

ACID ($2.50 from Jason Fairchild, PO Box 2614, Cambridge, MA 02238): As with many zines from the Small Press Alliance, this is primarily a collection of strange and bizarre art, starting with a color photocopy cover. Tony Fitzgerald contributes a couple of funny New Wavish comix, and there's a great tract for "Bob" to end things up. But not everything here is so hot; there are a couple of pages that are too scribbled to read. Still, an interesting mix. Includes an 8-page collage insert booklet. (S-20 & D-8)

*****

ACTION BULLETIN #16 ($15/yr from CCHW, PO Box 926, Arlington, VA 22216): Toxic waste doesn't seem to be a big deal with the major media anymore, but the Citizen's Clearinghouse for Hazardous Wastes is still keeping an eye on things. AB reports on new dumping, advances on the legal front, and attempts on the part of industry to get out of cleaning up -- as well as grassroots actions. (S-16r)

*****

THE ACTION LINKAGE NETWORKER #13-14 ($1 sample from Ann Weiser, 5825 Telegraph Ave. #45, Oakland, CA 94609): Newsletter of Action Linkage, a group trying to change the world. They're not sure yet where they're heading, but the general visionis of personal empowerment and a nicer place to live. They try to DO things as well as talk -- check out a sample and judge their success for yourself. (S-10t)

*****

ACTION TIME #4 ($1 from Erik Grotz, 15854 Montview Dr., Dumfries, VA 22026): A rather personal pfanzine. Erik makes no attempt to be comprehensive and instead sticks to stuff he likes. In #4 this means an interview with Scream plus fanzine, record, and comics reviews. Pretty gonzo layout but still a fair patch of white space. (S-12)

*****

ADVENTURES IN LEARNING #17 ($2 from PO Box 7627, Menlo Park, CA 94026): A zine published by a couple of teachers who want to share the joys of teaching via games. They concentrate particularly on role-playing games, whether the old-fashioned paper way or by computer, and on elementary computer programming. A real sense of wonder permeates every issue, and they're all full of playful ideas for all levels of skill. (S-32)

*****

AFM COMPENDIUM 1987 (Donation or swap or juxtaposition from 18 NW 100 St., Miami, FL 33150): A collection of photocopy art and contact addresses from the Alterior Facial Mandala and friends. Includes a copy of the "Juxtapositionist Manifesto" and a number of pseudo-psychedelic drawings. AFM also does various packages of neat stuff like posters and photocopies and what-not. The most vibrant node of the mail-art network that I know about. (D-22, sort of)

*****

THE AGITATOR Vol. 2 #2 ($1 (?) from 700 Eshleman Hall, UC Berkeley, Berkeley, CA 94720): For a student union sponsored paper this one's not half bad. As far as I'm concerned, the best feature was the piece on social training in college to make people fit to be drones in the workforce. They also discuss rent strikes, Vietnamese Death Squads in California, and the age-old Marxist vs. anarchist debate. (T-8t)

*****

A.I.C.F. REPORT Dec. 1987 ($1 from PO Box 525, Monterey, VA 24465): That's the American Immigration Control Foundation, and this is the first zine I've seen complaining that too many aliens have responded to the limited amnesty. Other than that, they have various scare stories about illegal immigrants and statistics on how much we're spending on them. (S-12t)

*****

AIRWAVES Fall 1987 ($1 (?) from SUNY Albany, Campus Center 316, 1400 Washington Ave., Albany, NY 12222): The program guide for WCDB 91 FM, one of the reasonably listenable college radio stations around here. The guide's not much, basically a few record reviews and some stories on the local scene (or lack thereof) but they're trying to expose people to some new sounds. (S-16t)

*****

AIRWAVES #6 ($7 CASH from 195 Radipole Ln., Weymouth, Dorset, DT4 0TQ, ENGLAND): Decidedly different from the above zine, this one is all short stories about various popular TV shows. The one I'm looking at includes Blake's Seven, the A-Team, Mission Impossible and Knight Rider. The back issue list includes others featuring Star Trek, Battlestar

Galactica, Hill Street Blues and even an I Dream of Jeannie and Knight Rider crossover story. (A4-81)

*****

ALABAMA FORUM Nov. 1987 ($1 (?) from Lambda, Inc., PO Box 55913, Birmingham, AL 35255): A rather small gay and lesbian tabloid -- but the wonder is that it can exist at all in Alabama (or is my ignorance showing?). Anyhow, this issue covers mainly the Washington demonstration, along with some local cultural news. (T-8t)

*****

AMARILLO ADVOCATE Vol. 2 #2 ($5/yr from HCR2 Box 25, Panhandle, TX 79068): "A Journal for Peace Through Justice", this one is mostly a chronicle of regional peace groups happenings. Being as they're right down the road from Pantex, anti-nuke concerns run high and the news of Brian Willson, for example, gets a lot of publicity. The other main topic is social justice -- prison and death penalty issues, and so on. (S-16)

*****

THE AMAZING CYNICALMAN #13 (35 cents from Matt Feazell, PO Box 5803, Raleigh, NC 27650): The world's best-known stick-figure superhero is back in a curiously multi-level adventure. Matt packs a lot of plot into 58 small panels, and you'll be amused as your mind is stretched. (M-8)

*****

AMBASSADOR REPORT Sept. 1987 (Donation from PO Box 60068, Pasadena, CA 91106): A publication from dissident ex-members of the Worldwide Church of God. They mainly do two things: keep a close watch on WCG teachings and antics, and provide support for others who have left the Church or are thinking of leaving. (L-8t)

*****

AMEN #2 ($1 from Furness Hall, 1499 Pine St., Philadelphia, PA 19102): A pfanzine that doesn't spend a whole lot of time on music: a Scram interview and some record reviews are about it. But there's lots of other stuff: killer skate pix, art and optical illusions, a strange short story, and best of all, a guide to underground vocabulary. Where else can you find the esoteric meanings of "Cup-o-Chowder" and "Purple Derby"? (S-30)

*****

AMERICAN HIT #1 ($1 from 137 E. Houston St. #4, New York, NY 10002): A new tabloid from the ashes of AMERICAN FORUM, GHOSTBUSTERS, TLC INTERNATIONAL, and a few other things. They're still planning to concentrate on sex, S&M, ghosts, music, underground films, and associated topics. Most of this first ish is large scrawly strange art. (T-12)

*****

AMERICAN JOB ($1 from Randy Russell, 5414 Columbus Ave., Sandusky, OH 44870): Stories about scut work, mainly, though one anonymous Wall Streeter gets in her licks. But most of these folks worked as delivery people or gas pumpers or clerks or warehousepeople -- the same lousy jobs I used to do, so I appreciated these descriptions very much. Contributors include Joe Hoppe, Denise Dee, Eric Mayer, Carol Schneck, and half a dozen more. (D-28r)

*****

THE AMERICAN PATRIOT Vol. 40 #4-5 ($5/10 copies from PO Box 10055, Phoenix, AZ 85064): Perhaps one of the milder conservative/Constitutionalist papers around. They accuse most everyone left of Dick Nixon of being a commie dupe, argue for the abolition of the Federal Reserve, and warn of the overwhelming Soviet nuclear superiority, but other than that, they're not too bad. #5 is further off the deep end than usual, concentrating on whipping up some AIDS hysteria. (T-8t)

*****

THE AMERICAN RATIONALIST Nov./Dec. 1987 ($1 from PO Box 994, St. Louis, MO 63188): A journal for freethinkers, rationalists and just plain atheists. They alternate between celebrating famous freethinkers of the past (or oddball ones, such as Thomas Pooley in 19th-century England) and making fun of various religions. There's also a consistently-good selection of book reviews. (S-16t)

*****

AMERICAN TIRADES (Donation from Bob Z., Artists & Writers Underground, c/o Sarris Bookmarketing, 125 E. 23rd St. #300, New York, NY 10010): A new mini from the folks who produce BAD NEWZ. This has the same mix of bizarre and sometimes obscene art, cutups and collages, and near-the-edge poetry as most of the other pubs they've put out. Notable here are the mini-biographies of some of the writers and the breathless violent poems from Arthur Winfred Knight and Sean Lee Avery. (M-24)

*****

AMERICAN WINDOW CLEANER #6-7 ($35/yr from PO Box 5653, Berkeley, CA 94705): A pretty specialized publication that shows what a desktop publisher can do with a bit of care and thought. There's a lot to the business, with new high-tech gadgets and OSH regulations coming out all the time, and all the worries of any other small business. Full of helpful hints and tips. The continuing series on using a boatswain's chair is fascinating. (S-24t)

*****

AMOEBAMAN #3 (25 cents from 11860 Critton Cir., Woodbridge, VA 22192): There's a lot more here than the Amoebaman comic. There are other rude, crude and disgusting strips; music reviews; and a special fold-out poster. Not your average mini by any means, this one has twice the excitement for half the price. (M-32)

*****

ANARCHY #14 ($3/6 issues from C.A.L., PO Box 380, Columbia, MO 54205): Published by the Columbia Anarchist League, this "Journal of Desire Armed" is pretty much on the insurrectionist side of the anarchist movement. They want freedom and they want it now. Meanwhile, they'll complain about wars and taxes and "justice" and stuff. The best part is usually Lev Chernyi's replies to letters, but there's a lot else here, theory with a leavening of practice. Nice graphics by Freddie Baer in #14. (T-28t)

*****

ANATOMIC WASTE Vol. 1 #3 ($2 from PO Box 93, Cambridge, MA 02139): A complexly-folded work that I had to spread out on the floor to inspect ("to read" is hardly the correct verb). It's a series of tracts and collages, apparently emanating from an academic environment, and encompassing bits of neuroscience, anatomy, venereal diseases, operations, origami, film criticism, rock criticism, and more. The whole definitely does not hang together; by its very lack of structure it serves to poke fun at academic pretensions to grand theory. Includes a supplemental booklet, NEITHER...NOR, which discusses various means of self-change and loss of identity. (S-32)

*****

THE ANIMALS' AGENDA Nov. 1987-Feb. 1988 ($2 from PO Box 5234, Westport, CT 06881): A wide-ranging slick magazine devoted to animal rights and associated topics. The November issue, aptly enough, discusses turkey farming and focuses in on hunters and trappers -- who they are and why they do it. The December issue considers the thorny problem of pets (or, if you prefer, companion animals) and presents and interview with Earth First!'s Dave Foreman. February touches on coyote trapping and public-land grazing. (S-64t)

*****

ANTI-ARTIST 5 (25 cents & a stamp from Sheridan, 10922 Fortune, Cleveland, OH 44111): A slightly salacious Spiderman parody, in which the antagonists learn to cooperate instead of fighting. Light reading, but cheap too, so it balances out. (M-8)

*****

ANTIMEDIA #25 (Donation from Zeno, PO Box 1865, Olympia, WA 98507-1865): A newsletter of anarchist commentary. Zeno cuts out stories from the major media and then uses them to point out what a screwy world we live in. A good source of info on boycotts, vegetarianism, anarchy, and activism. Also contains a healthy dose of humor. (S-12)

*****

ANT SPOIM #3 (50 cents from Estraven, PO Box 1216, Fairlawn, NJ 07410): This looks like a pfanzine, but turns out to be a digest of the underground, informed perhaps but not dominated by the punk perspective. Estraven reprints stuff on rainforests and sexism and anarchy and nuclear war and other cheery subjects, wrapped up in a graphic package that will confuse and interest you. (D-16)

*****

ANVIL #45 (The Usual or $6/yr from Charlotte Proctor, 8325 7th Ave. S., Birmingham, AL 35206): A sfanzine from the Birmingham SF club. Topics covered in #45 include the dismal prospects for the new Star Trek, the struggle to drink a reasonable amount of beer, and Buck Coulson's bookshelf. Also lots of locs and a book review or two. (S-30)

*****

APA-69 #58 (Contact Brenda Mings, PO Box 248, Murray Hill Stn., New York, NY 10156): One of the oldest apas devoted to sex in all its glory, fallen on hard times for a while, but now bouncing back under a new OE and with less bickering than the last time I saw it. Discussion is blunt, with masturbation, foreplay, and dirty jokes all being topics in this issue. Write to Brenda for details on getting a sample if you're interested in joining. (S-31)

*****

APA-EROS (SASE & age statement from Sylvia, PO Box 759, Veneta, OR 97487): An apa devoted to discussing sex and love and condoms and birthing and related topics. The SASE will get you a sample issue and tell you how to get more involved. Current contents include: erotic artwork, fantasy, and poetry; dirty limericks; discussion of AIDS; thoughts on various sexual practices. Quite fun-loving. (S-8r)

*****

APA-TAROT #22-25 ($2.55 from Sheila Wilding, 17645 Via Sereno, Los Gatos, CA 95030): This amateur press association has changed editors but not topics, still focusing on (obviously) Tarot Cards. Participants are generally interested in swapping ideas on how to read them, where to get new decks, the design and significance of the arcana, and so on. (S-111)

*****

AQUARIAN ALTERNATIVES #154 ($1 from 5620 Morton St., Philadelphia, PA 19144): This newsletter is apparently devoted to world peace via grassroots networking among the superpowers, though there are no programmatic statements in the issue I've seen. They discuss bringing a Soviet poet over to visit American intentional communities and setting up a computer mail linkage between US and Soviet school children. (S-8)

*****

AROUND THE CIRCUIT ($20/yr from Integrated Circuit, West Coast Committee, 621 E. 19th St., Oakland, CA 94606): IC is a group proposing "A new high tech agenda". What that means is that they want workers to be considered in developing future directions for the electronics and related industries. Their newsletter gives quick blurbs on labor organizing, toxic chemical exposure, workplace monitoring and allied issues. (L-2)

*****

ARTHUR GETS OUT OF BED (25 cents from Liam Brooks, 21 Walnut St. #8, Malden, MA 02148): A minicomic about a lazy youth who sponges off his parents, and what happens when he decides to take some art courses. Not much here, but it's reasonably well drawn. (M-8)

*****

ARTIFICIAL INSANITY #1 (50 cents from Emil Isner, 348 Richmond Ave., Blackwood, NY 08012): A new pfanzine that does a reasonable job of standing out from the pack. First off, they're spending most of their pages on local unknown bands instead of yet another interview with a super-act. Second, Emil has put a lot of time into creative layout, and it shows. Nothing really stand out writing-wise, and the art needs to mature, but it's a strong start. (S-28)

*****

ARTIST MONTHLY #1-2 (50 cents from John Jones, 2011 E. Hart Ln., Philadelphia, PA 19134): The first issue is a collection of drawings and photographs, together with a couple of short unsigned poems that are evidently the work of Bill Dockery. Love, sex and war are apparent interests, though the style is mainly primitive. #2 is mostly a light porn story from Andrew Roller. (M-8)

*****

ARTPOLICE Dec. 1987 ($15/yr from 3131 S. 1st St., Minneapolis, MN 55408-3136): A collection of art from various folks who don't care to pander to the mainstream. Instead, they pander to the underground, with lots of bizarre images and naked folks and surrealism and the Twins. Often there are marginal screeds of great detail worked in. (D-20)

*****

ARTS AND BUSINESS QUARTERLY Fall 1987-Winter 1988 (50 cents (?) from PGAC, 6600 Kenilworth Ave., Riverdale, MD 20737): A publication from an active artists' group, the Prince George's [County] Arts Council. The A&BQ serves to network the artists with local corporate sponsors; it contains news of current shows and possible funding. You might want to get a copy to see if you can do something similar in your area. (S-4t)

*****

ASSEMBLY REQUIRED (25 cents & a stamp from 42270 Lima Hall Rd., Bermuda Dunes, CA 92201-8152): Actually, ASSEMBLY REQUIRED is dead, but editor Rich hasn't been able to think of a new name for his new zine yet. Most of this one is record reviews, along with a wantlist and assorted light humor. I'm intrigued by the mention of a visit from the Secret Service, but there aren't any details. (S-4)

*****

THE ATLANTIS NEWS #18-19 ($1 from PO Box 7973, Jacksonville, FL 32238): Atlantis is the name of a proposed new country to be founded by Libertarians on a man-made island in the Atlantic. So far, most of the discussion has been on fundraising and technological speculation. I don't see any way for the former to keep up with the latter. (S-4)

*****

ASSEMBLAGE #1 ($1 from 13848 Methuen Green, Dallas, TX 75240): Formerly PRESENTS OF MIND, this one has changed names without changing direction. It's a melange of surrealism and dada, Subgenius and Andy Warhol, cut-ups and angry letters, among other things. Linear thinking is not encouraged, but making strange collaged connections is. #1 includes some scathing criticism of past issues and a glue stic(k) review. (S-32)

*****

ATOMIC COMICS #9 (50 cents (?) from PO Box 14822, Gainesville, FL 32604): A collection of mildly amusing strips featuring such crazy characters as Pissing Dog and the Three-Mile Island Family. Subjects include censorship, sequels, having fun, and being ID'd. Buy it for the laughs; the art is definitely not top-rank. (D-8)

*****

THE ATROCITY Vol. 11 #11-12 ($8/yr from Hank Roll, 2419 Greensburg Pike, Pittsburgh, PA 15221): This may well be the reason that MENSA was invented. ATROCITY is the publication of the Absurd Special Interest Group. What it contains is dirty jokes, ethnic jokes, bizarre real-world ads, reasons why a beer is better than a woman, and so on. No socially redeeming value at all but damnably funny in spots. (S-16)

*****

AU COURANT Vol. 5 #52 ($1 (?) from 222 N. Eleventh St., Philadelphia, PA 19107) A tabloid for Philadelphia's gay & lesbian community, free locally but they'll probably ship to the backwoods if you ask. The coverage is pretty broad; there's more on arts and national politics than there is on local events. Of course there are lots of ads, including some personals with a forwarding service. (T-20t)

*****

BABBLE 3 ($1.50 (?) from Mr. Bones, 660 Queen St. W., Toronto, ONT M6J 1E5, CANADA): A small collection of raving creativity. The art and poetry and writings here seem to owe a lot to Dada -- in fact, there's a translation of one of Tristan Tzara's plays included. But there are also Discordian bits and stuff that could have come from any minicomic. A real grabbag of stuff, including some gratuitous obscenity. (D-60)

*****

THE BABY SUE BOOK and BABY SUE'S RECIPE BOOK (50 cents & SASE each from PO Box 1111, Decatur, GA 30031-1111): These are promos for Baby Sue Records, and if the music is like them it must be strange indeed. Baby Sue is a horribly sadistic and poorly drawn little figure who engages in horrible arguments with the narrator of her own comic. Nothing but hate and death and AIDS and murder here -- and recipes for "Stupid People Omelet" and "Fresh Muscle Pasta". Grossouts of the week. (M-16)

*****

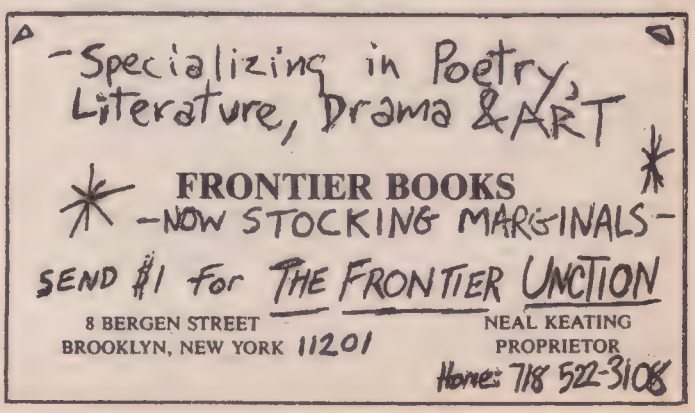
BAD NEWZ #7 ($2.00 from Bob Z., Artists & Writers Underground, c/o Sarris Bookmarketing, 125 E. 23rd St. #300, New York, NY 10010): A zine that's bursting at the seams. It's got the usual pfanzine trappings: live show reports and reviews, pictures of bands -- but also a lot more. One big component is a spirit of protest, with articles complaining about demonstration marshalls restraining spontaneous action and the murder of Ben Linder. Another is "punkture", the attempt to build and document a punk culture via poetry and graphics. The whole package works well together; one can cherish this zine for a long time. (S-36r)

*****

BARBED WIRE CANOE #3 (55 cents & a stamp from Karl Anderson, 323 Locust Rd., Winnetka, IL 60093-3610): Communication on a small scale. Karl isn't grinding any particular axe or sticking to any particular genre; he's just printing things he wants to print. They include a few pages from Ernest Mann's LITTLE FREE PRESS, drawings, a few manifestos, and a letter from his high school to his parents. #3 includes the beginnings of a dialogue with his audience. (D-16r)

*****

BASEBALL DIARY Aug. 1987 ($15/season from William Fuller, 1619 Fremont Ave., S. Pasadena, CA 91030): This one only comes out during baseball season, but someone sent me this



issue late, so here it is. Basically, this is one for the fans: there are chronicles of the current season, statistical backwaters, and stories that have at least a little something to do with the sport. It's all wrapped up with a nice color cover and exquisite graphics, not all bats and balls. (S-16t)

*****

BASIS Vol. 6 #11 ($15/yr from 4412 Fulton, San Francisco, CA 94121): The title stands for Bay Area Skeptics Information Sheet. Certainly these debunkers and doubters have a lot to work with out there, and they're no slouches about attacking it. #11 contains a rollickingly nasty description of a dowsing class and speculations on mail frauds and lotteries. (S-8t)

*****

BBXL #1 ($1.50 from PO Box 1723, Pittsburg, KS 66762): That stands for "Burned By X-Lovers". This is a publication for members of the gay community (at least initially) who have been screwed over in the course of relationships. Various sections describe the slimeballs, suggest acts of revenge and, on a more serious note, suggest how to make relaationships work better. (S-8)

*****

BEAUTIFUL WORLD #10 ($1.50 CASH/MO [no trades] from Debbie David, PO Box 1675, Old Chelsea Stn., New York, NY 10011): A zine for DEVO-tees; that is (just in case you're incredibly dense today) fans of DEVO. Now, since the spudboys haven't been up to much lately, you might think this would be slim. Fortunately, there are plenty of other things in the same cultural gestalt to talk about: My Favorite Martian, Star Trek (new & old), strange news, Saturday cartoons, and more. And there's still enough obscure Devo news to fill a few pages. (D-24r)

*****

BEWARE 17-20 (Free from PO Box 210208, San Francisco, CA 94121): High-contrast photographic images taken from various parts of the mass media. #17 is made up of pictures of people; #18 features fires, explosions, and planes, as well as a short poem about a pilot. #19 is apparently a "Kids" issue, and #20 concentrates on tourism and the destruction of the Third World, with more prose than usual. Some postage might be nice. (S-15)

*****

BEYOND #9 ($4.50 from Other Worlds Books, PO Box 1124, Fair Lawn, NJ 07410): A nice zine of science fiction, fantasy, and related genres. #9 opens with some seasonal spookiness for Halloween, including a well-crafted tale by Patricia Russo. The winner, though, is Keith Croes' novelette "The Practice Field", a story which successfully combines SF and football in a rather novel way, with fine writing and a clever setting. There are about a dozen other short stories here, mainly pleasant without being standouts. (S-48r)

*****

BEYOND THE FRINGE #1 ($10 or arranged trades from Feral Faun, PO Box 48, Monte Rio, CA 95462): The ten bucks is to open a mailing account for this new apa. The plan is to include three sorts of material: erotica, ecstatica, and anarchia. There's a sample of each in this first issue, with materials from the editor, Hakim Bey, Bob McGlynn, and one or two others. A no-holds-barred exploration of the possible. (D-28r)

*****

BIG MIND #2-3 ($4 from Stephen Harris, 30 Foxley St., Toronto, ONT M6J 1R1, CANADA): Sort of an art gallery without walls. BM exists for the display of original art, and a lot of care is taken with printing and paper to show it off to good advantage. #2 is the "Bad Faith" issue, with a sort of anti-religious theme. #3 is the 1988 Calendar, a delightful collection of pages with a different artist for each month, with contributions ranging from abstract to humor to collage. (S-16)

*****

THE BIG SCRUB NEWSLETTER (A$12/yr from 88 Keen St., Lismore, 2480, AUSTRALIA): The Big Scrub Environment Centre is concerned with a lot of issues of development in Australia. Chief among these are clearcutting and woodchipping (some 850,000 tons of woodchips a year are being exported), food irradiation, rainforest preservation, and uranium mining. (A4-24)

*****

THE BIG TAKEOVER #23 ($1 from Jack Rabid, 249 Eldridge St. #14, New York, NY 10002): 7+ years later, Jack is still cranking out thoughts about an amazing variety of new music, with a little help from his friends. #23 is built around an astonishingly long interview with ex-Buzzcocks guitarist Steve Diggle. Otherwise, there are a couple of editorials (including a great one on Biafra's trial), dozens of live reviews, and a shitload of record reviews (limited to things worth buying). A vibrant testimonial to the life of new music. (S-32r)

*****

BIKES NOT BOMBS CAMPAIGN UPDATE Summer/Fall 1987 (Donation from PO Box 5595, Friendship Stn., Washington, DC 20016-5595): A relatively simple idea is behind this one: shipping bicycles to Nicaragua instead of bombs. And through a grassroots network, they've done just that, moving thousands of bikes down there to help out with a transport shortage. Local volunteers and donations are needed. (T-4t)

*****

BLACK FLAG #174 (L19/yr from Black Cross, BM Hurricane, London, WC1N 3XX): An anarchist tabloid that covers news from around the world, chiefly about government corruption and workers' struggles. They take a hardline stance against the state, and are prone to conspiracy theorizing. I would take their news with a big lump of salt, but they're good at pointing out stuff that doesn't make the major media. (T-8t)

*****

BLACK MOUNTAIN II REVIEW Vol. VI ($4 from PO Box 107, Buffalo, NY 14215): A college-based litzine that's now out of business; copis of this issue are still available. The contents are heavy going, not the usual flowers & birds poetry. Between a fascination with sexual boundaries and a deconstructionist viewpoint, many of the writers here can be hard sledding. But persevere; the works are rewarding in expanded boundaries if one takes the time to work through them. Not quite aggressively experimental, but not dancing to the mainstream's piper either. (S-52t)

*****

THE BLIND ARMADILLO #8 ($1.75 from PO Box 23385, Oklahoma City, OK 73123): A nice pfanzine with an intriguing personality, thanks to editor Natalie Kerr. #8 revolves around her trip to LA and a longish interview with the Tomboys. There's also a collection of messages scratched into records and a bunch of reviews -- which are a lot more honestly critical than you'll find in the average zine. Neat stuff. (S-32)

*****

BLOODLOG #14 Vol. 80 (SASE [about 39 cents] or trade from Martin Billheimer, 2778 Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60647): A zine for the devotee of cannibalism, torture, and other cheerful topics. The catch is that the writers admit to making a bunch of the contents up, and even give instructions on coming up with your own conspiracy theories. On the other hand, some of this is clippings from the aboveground press. Manic handwriting throughout. (S-8)

*****

BLUE LIGHTS #4-7 ($3 from Christine Menefee, 600 Water St. SW #8-14, Washington, DC 20024): The official publication of Spotlight Starman, a grassroots group trying to get the Starman series back in production. The newsletters split between action items and memories of the existing episodes. In addition to all the Starman stuff, this is getting to be an education in how the TV industry runs, as they discover new and better ways to increase the pressure. This is no joke -- with an ad in VARIETY pleading their case, this is the big time. And it looks like ABC may even be listening. (S-20)

*****

BODY MIND SPIRIT Jan./Feb. 1988 ($2.95 from PO Box 701, Providence, RI 02901): Formerly PSYCHIC GUIDE, this one has gotten heavily into channeling of late -- the smiling face of Jach Pursel and/or Lazaris graces the cover of this issue. Inside is channeled medical advice, news on lucid dreaming, "Herbs and the Common Cold", kundalini energy, and the greatest bunch of scam ads I ever hope to see. (S-92t)

*****

BOLT Vol. 1 #4 ($1 (?) from PO Box 10296, Charlotte, NC 28212): Apparently a reaction to some pro-censorship group called Concerned Charlotteans, BOLT is made of of reprints from all over that oppose censorship or show what the right wing is up to. Sources include the papers, PENTHOUSE, and George Orwell's essays. (S-12)

*****

BONDAGE #15 ($3.50 from PO Box 414, Bronxville, NY 10708): Still your beating hearts -- this is a fan magazine about James Bond, and mainly about the movies rather than the books. Most of this is stories about and stills from the movies, old and new, but there's also a bit of Ian Fleming's non-Bond writing and a Timothy Dalton interview here. (S-24t)

*****

BOSTON ROCK #85-87 ($1.50 from PO Box 371, New Town Branch, Boston, MA 02258): BR has just switched publishers, though I'm in the dark as to what that means. They tend to concentrate on sort of the "leading independent" artists, people on the border between fame and nothingness -- the biggest name in #85 is probably X, with lots of coverage of various Homestead, SST, and 4AD artists. #86 has a cover story on Throwing Muses and quickie profiles of 25 local bands. Plenty of news and a lot of awful hi-contrast photos round out the package. #87 seems more commercial, with Aerosmith, Pere Ubu, and Johnny Lydon represented. (T-28t)

*****

BOTTLED LIGHTNING #1 (Trade or a couple IRC's [NO CASH!] from Maureen Porter, 114 Guildhall St., Folkestone, Kent, CT20 1ES, ENGLAND): A new perzine -- that is, a zine written by an SF fan who mostly talks about her own life. Maureen discusses (as is right and proper) her fannish history, life without work, and the "creeping convention malaise" that is overtaking British fandom. A pleasant effort if a trifle strained sounding in places (but it's tough to do a first zine).

*****

THE BOYCOTT CENSUS ($5/2 yrs from RFD #1, Box 3445, Norway, ME 04268): A 14-year-old newsletter of boycotts and the social causes behind them. They're selective in what is covered -- for example, lacking expertise they don't discuss animal rights. And they refuse to publicize "bluff boycotts". The info on the ones they do talk about, though, is good, with contact numbers for the calling groups and suggestions on alternative products. (S-8)

*****

BRAIN CELL 72 (from Ryosuke Cohen, 3-76-I-A-613 Yagumokitacho, Moriguchi-City, Osaka 570, JAPAN): Ryosuke is one of the central nodes of the mail-art netwrok. To get on his mailing list, send him a rubber stamp of your own design. Every week or two he takes the accumulated stamps and a collection of fluorescent inks and makes up a nice collage, returning to to participants. Sort of a mail-art apa, and very pretty to have on the wall. (A3-1)

*****

BRAIN DEAD #5 ($2 from John Bergin, 19 Shadylawn Dr., Churchville, PA 18966): A very nicely put together zine of art and music. #5 really stands out from the pile of zines here, with a striking red-on-black glossy cover that sets an eerie mood. Inside are a longish Naked Raygun interview, some live reviews, a variety of drawings, and even some arty photos. The whole has a gritty city-streets feel to it. Well done and gripping. (HL-48)

*****

BRAIN MIND BULLETIN Aug. 1987 ($35/yr from PO Box 70457, Pasadena, CA 91107): A digest of recent research in brain chemistry, psychology and parapsychology, education, learning research, and so on. References back into the original literature are given, and the digesting is done well enough to let one know if things are worth pursuing. (S-6t)

*****

BRAT (SASE from Bob Z., c/o Sarris Bookmarketing, 125 E. 23rd St. #300, New York, NY 10010): A quick introduction to the art of "punkture" -- a sort of cultural undercurrent that's threatening to drown the rest of the punk movement. At its best in a performance setting, punkture gives rise to angry graphics and verse exploring and condemning the injustices of today in the language of youth. This mini features some of the best at it, including John E., Bob Z., and more pseudonymical characters. (M-24)

*****

THE BREAKING POINT #2 ($1.50 from PO Box 1589, Cranford, NJ 07016): A pfanzine with what the speaker companies like to call a "wide dynamic range". They review everything from the Smiths to heavy metal groups to Pink Floyd. Interviews in #2 include Band of Susans, Whiplash, and They Might be Giants. Besides the usual stuff they have a fair batch of video reviews. (S-24)

*****

BREAKTHROUGH Vol. XI #2 ($1 from John Brown Book Club, PO Box 14422, San Francisco, CA 94114): The journal of the Prairie Fire Organizing Committee, a group dedicated to supporting struggle, armed or otherwise, against the United States and its puppet regimes around the world. They also get involved in other liberatory concerns, as witness the informed and balanced discussion of pornography in this issue. Struggles in Puerto Rico, the Phillipines, and Nicaragua get top billing. (S-56t)

*****

THE BREITENBUSH NEWSLETTER Winter 1987 ($5-10/yr from PO Box 578, Detroit, OR 97342): The Breitenbush Retreat Center is a focus for many New Age seminars, camps and retreats. It's run by the Breitenbush Community, which is currently undergoing a difficult period of restructuring and redirecting. The newsletter contains news on the Community, their fights to preserve local forests from clearcutting, and announcements of future events. (S-32t)

*****

BRICK PILLOW #55-56 ($2 CASH from 1321 N S E Mall Way #113, Everett, WA 98208): Brick (the editor uses the same name as the zine) has invented sort of a moderated apa. Readers are free to send in whatever they want to be published, but in fact most are conducting dialogs with the editor rather than each other. In general this seems to be a spinoff from THE CONNECTION, another place to discuss freedom and the just society and sauerkraut and stuff like that. Brick is a laid-back sort of guy, and he does a good job of discussing without giving in on his basic points. #56 is better than ever, and includes an essay on living in the city in a truck, a novel form of dropping out. (HL-56r)

*****

B-SIDE Dec. 1987/Jan. 1988 ($9.50/yr from PO Box 1387, Ft. Washington, PA 19034): I dunno why we don't see more good zines out of Philly - certainly it's not the fault of these folks. (FF staffer Carol Schutzbank, incidentally, is part of the crew). This tabloid mixes some relatively underground acts in with critical darlings like Gene Loves Jezebel and Echo and the Bunnymen. Hopefully it will expose some trendies to things like the Jello Biafra trial and the music of Live Skull. (T-40)

*****

BUF-O Nov./Dec. 1987 (TRADE ONLY from Klaus Haisch, 1729 E. Tabor St., Indianapolis, IN 46203): A zine for the fan of strange media. Klaus and his readers are enamoured of the Twilight Zone, Marvel Comics, serials, bubble-gum cards and the like, generally from at least 20 years ago (though Vanna White and Star Trek:NG have both made these pages recently). A mix of trivia, reprints, and reviews. (S-18)

*****

BULLETIN Vol. 13 #2 ($10/yr from OLP, 2086 Yonge St., Toronto, Ontario M4S 2A3, CANADA): The magazine of the Ontario Libertarian Party, certainly one of the more impressive partyarch publications around. This issue is mainly devoted to vote totals and campaign propaganda from their recent election, but it includes news from across Canada and the States. An excellent resource. (S-38r)

*****

BULLETIN OF THE COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN GRENADA #2 ($5/yr from PO Box 20714, Cathedral Finance Stn., New York, NY 10025): Remember Grenada? You know, the place we invaded four years ago. Well, some people haven't forgotten, and this little newsletter keeps us posted on conditions there -- which are downright shitty, far worse than when we went in. Surprise, surprise. (S-4t)

*****

BULLSHIT MONTHLY #16-17 ($1 from 89-58 215 Pl., Queens Village, NY 11427): A nicely mixed pfanzine: photos and prose, computer- and hand-printed stuff, big names and the little local bands. #16 includes an interview with Mykel Board. #17 talks to the Necros and has a great editorial on bands changing their sounds. Some of the photos in #17 are even screened, which helps ease the assault of the darker photocopied ones. A real scene supporter. (L-12)

*****

BURNING TODDLERS #2 ($2 from FRANK Productions, PO Box 56942, Phoenix, AZ 85079): Another collection of work from the marginals of the network. I found plenty of familiar names here, including Black, And and Was, Oberc, Livermore and Eliot, plus a raft of talented newcomers. Topics range from conspiracy theory to revolutionary propaganda to drugs to sex, with an emphasis on the bizarre sidelines of modern life. Act now and recieve a copy of SATAN'S PLAYTHINGS, a tract condemning modern toys in the strongest terms. (D-40t)

*****

BUSINESS ETHICS Vol. I #4 ($97/yr from PO Box 3473, Madison, WI 53791-9109): I always thought that business ethics was an academic subject, a branch of philosophy. Well,

not to these people. This is a magazine for "the new kind of business person coming into power" -- apparently one who wants to be kind to small animals and pick up his own garbage while still making a decent profit. So most of this is cheerleading and success stories about being a boss with a human face. (S-13t)

*****

BUZZ #24-25 ($1 (?) from PO Box 3111, Albany, NY 12203): You know the story: free if you live here, no price listed if you don't. BUZZ is a local tabloid zine that covers the clubs and recording artists in Albany, with lots of chatty gossip, upcoming gig news, and the occasional interview, as well as (of course) ads from the local cool people. #25 includes a chatty Alex Chilton interview. (S-32t)

*****

BVI-CENTRAL Vol. 6 #3 ($1 (?) from J. LeRoy, PO Box 81623, Lincoln, NE 68501-1623): One of the longest-running of the BVI group of zines, dedicated to humor and confusion. J. presents some of both, with Dave Fisher's cartoons being amusing and most of the editor's writing being quite enigmatic. Nice collage layouts. (S-10)

*****

BVI-GREAT LAKES #1 ($1 from Ann LeRoy, PO Box 4843, East Lansing, MI 48826-4843): This is one of the best-written BVI publications I've seen lately. Ann is working on her prose style, and she's getting somewhere, though I'm not quite sure where. All I know is that the story fragments here are fairly interesting and entertaining, over the usual collages. (S-14)

*****

THE BVI GROUP JOURNAL PACIFICA Vol. 1 #1-2 ($2.50 from Dragwyla, PO Box 45792, Seattle, WA 98145-0792): A new direction for any of the BVI pubs, this one is dedicated to supporting the First Amendment in action, rather than the usual grab bag of collage, poetry and humor. What that means is publishing controversial articles: the first issue brings us debates over the Holocaust, AIDS, and the Book of Changes as interpreted by Crowley. #2 includes more revisionism, a book review commenting on Siggy Freud, and a slashing attack on THE ANARCHIST COOKBOOK. (D-32r)

*****

THE BVI GROUP PACIFICA NEWSLETTER Vol. III #2 ($2.50 from Dragwyla, PO Box 45792, Seattle, WA 98145-0792): This is more like the regular BVI stuff, though still into some strange byways. Material concentrates on SubGenial and related topics, with bizarre end-time rants and book reviews being a large part of the contents. (D-32r)

*****

CAAC NEWS Fall 1987 (On Request from PO Box 7454, Olympia, WA 98507): Newsletter of the Central America Action Committee of Thurston County, this one generally keeps one up to date about what activists from here are doing there. The Fall issue reports on the latest wave of terror in El Salvador and the Christic Institute lawsuit, plus gives some ideas on what USAmericans can do to help. (S-8t)

*****

CAMERA OBSCURA #14 ($1 from 1508 Faymont, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266): This is a pfanzine that believes in reviewing a few indie releases in depth rather than covering the field. Their policy of mentioning new activities by those previously reviewed is also nice, and should help to build a bit of camaraderie in the field. Editor Marc Tucker also muses about what's wrong with the underground (too close to mainstream role-models, apparently) and publishes some oddball comics. The music is mostly experimental, though it does vary. (S-20)

*****

CAMPUS REVIEW Vol. 3 #7-9 ($5/yr from 336 S. Clinton #16, Iowa City, IA 52240): As they say, this is "the RIGHT side of the story". CR is a college paper for conservative students, expressing clearly, candidly (and often wittily) the conservative view on most anything. A regrettable amount of space is devoted to making fun of their opponents, but they still find time to discuss issues like the Supreme Court appointments and the '88 campaign. (T-16t)

*****

CANDID CREST #2 ($2 & age statement from Linda Meadows, PO Box 23106, Columbus, OH 43223): This is intended to be a journal for magickians and pagans who prefer the left-hand path -- that is, Black Magic in all its guises -- but the first issue is off to a shaky start. There is one bit of light porno and a few poems full of evocative names, but the rest is mainly ads and filler. #2 is stronger, with dark poetry and a long and steamy letter, though the watchword remains "the mild AND the wild". Looking for contributors. (S-19)

*****

THE CARBON DATING SERVICE Vol. 1 #4 (50 cents (?) from Alan Pruzan, 203 Belmont E. #207, Seattle, WA 98102): A short zine that's very confusing while appearing on the surface to be quite rational. Much of the content relates to a controversy over the manufacture of M&Ms, but this leads the writers into such obscure byways as the evolution of man and the veracity of oral vs. written accounts. A strange intellectual experience. (S-4r)

*****

CARIBBEAN NEWSLETTER Vol. 7 #9-11/12 ($1 from Friends for Jamaica, PO Box 20392, Cathedral FInance Stn., New York, NY 10025): This one has suffered recently from an adverse judicial decision, but it's still alive and kicking if a bit shrunken. Basically CN is the source for left-wing and underground news from the Caribbean, particularly Jamaica -- a whole set of political scenes on which the average American is sadly uninformed. (S-6)

*****

CAT GOT YOUR TONGUE #1 (A couple of stamps from Jeff Wechter, 2434 Stevens Ave. S. #2, Minneapolis, MN 55404): A small collection of random thoughts, reviews, and stories. #1 opens with a dozen or two super-short book reviews, reminiscent of the very early issues of FF. Luna Ticks' cartoons and some news about Jack Russell Terriers round out the issue. (HL-12)

*****

THE CATHOLIC AGITATOR Dec 1987 ($1/yr from 632 N. Brittania St., Los Angeles, CA 90033) and THE CATHOLIC WORKER Aug. 1987 (25 cents/yr from 36 East First St., New York, NY 10003): A lot of leftists don't have any use for the Catholic Worker movement, because they are Catholics. But they're also caring people, living in voluntary poverty and nonviolence, trying to set a good example for the rest of the world. That deserves respect no matter what their religion. Each of these papers is full of simple humanitarian news, as well as news of the peace movement and religious teachings. (T-8t)

*****

CATTLE/LISZT #16 1/2 (FREE from PO Box 20518, Seattle, WA 98102): Fifty cents or so for postage wouldn't hurt. This is the latest from the CATALYST crew, a nice mix of poetry in all stryles from concrete to realistic, together with art and bits of found culture. Nothing hangs around long enough to get tedious or boring; I even appreciated Chris Winkler's "MX" poems in the shapes of flags and missiles. Tim Silbaugh's computer art and the page of losers with captions were pretty good too. (D-24)

*****

CCCO NEWS NOTES Fall 1987 (50 cents (?) from 2208 South St., Philadelphia, PA 19146): From the Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors, this is a linking point for hte anti-war and anti-draft networks. Mostly it's short news blurbs on what actions are being done where and what the courts have to say about it. There are also longer features on life in the military and related subjects. (S-16t)

*****

CELTIC FRINGE Vol. II #3 ($10/yr from 6146 W. Giddings, Chicago, IL 60630): Editor June Sawyers is interested in promoting Celtic cultures the world round. In #3 the focus is on a pocket of it most people haven't hgeard of: Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, where there are still 1400 Gaelic speakers. The focus is on cultural preservation and what can be done to keep the old ways from dying out. (S-12)

*****

CENTRAL AMERICA NEWSPAK Vol. 2 #22 ($20/6 months from Central America Resource Center, PO Box 2327, Austin, TX 78768): This is a biweekly collection of articles on Central America, taken from major US and Mexican newspapers. There's a lot of detailed coverage that you won't find widely publicized, as well as a guide to further sources of information. (S-16)

*****

CHANGING WORK Winter/Spring 1987 ($3.50 from PO Box 261, New Town Branch, Newton, MA 02258): "A magazine about liberating worklife", these folks are interested in social justice and what that means on the job. Each issue has a slightly different focus. This one is on "Wiping Out Unemployment in Our Lifetime", a prospect some visionaries abhor but which would probably be a short-run good. (S-54t)

*****

CHILDREN'S ADVOCATE Vol. XIV #4 ($3 from 3200 Adeline St., Berkeley, CA 94703): A tabloid concerned with children's issues of all types. The emphasis is more on getting information out than in proposing reforms or revolution, This issue includes pieces on latchkey library kids, the implications of estate planning for your children, and rehabilitation in the juvenile justice system. (T-12t)

*****

CHOICE Vol. 1 #8 (On Request from PO Box 453, Winston-Salem, NC 27102): "A Service of R.J. Reynolds Tobacco USA". This is a quickie slick designed to inform us all that restricting smokers is a frontal assault on the Constitution, motherhood, and apple pie. Contains both horror stories of proposed legislation and success stories of smokers asserting their rights. (S-4t)

*****

CHOICES 2 (25 cents from Lydia, 21 Walnut St. #8, Malden, MA 02148): A mini of artwork, poetry, and scribblings. The tone is sort of depressed though V-X's art is rather upbeat, especially the clock-filled cover. Apparently this is from the heart of a young woman who's having a difficult time with life. (M-8)

*****

THE CHOLERA MONKEY (50 cents from TKA, 3021 N. Southport, Chicago, IL 60657): This is the first installment of an adventure comic -- though it looks like the only installment, despite the cliffhanger ending. It concerns the adventures of Soy Numan, happy-go-lucky vivisector, and a recalcitrant monkey. Morbidly funny. (M-8)

*****

CHOPLOGIC #1 (50 cents from Eric Rochow, 151 First Ave. Studio D, New York, NY 10003): The premiere issue of a new attempt to come to grips with modern life. Contents include photos, drawings, a bizarre short story without an end, poetry, song lyrics, and a bizarrely-worded editorial. They're looking for submissions and are particularly interested in 2-page photo or drawing spreads. (HL-16)

*****

CHRISTIAN CRUSADE FOR TRUTH INTELLIGENCE NEWSLETTER Aug./Sept. 1987 ($1 (?) from Pastor Earl Jones, Star Rte. 2, Box 39, Deming, NM 88030): This one is far right and vaguely conspiratorial, but apparently has enough to worry about to not bother with being rabidly hateful. Major topics in this issue include the Gordon Kahl case and a proposed FBI takeover of the DEA. With the willies over commie subversion, this one would have fit right in with Tailgunner Joe. (S-8)

*****

CIRCULAR 18 (SASE from PO Box 6013, East Lansing, MI 48823): Half produced by Charlie and half by Carol, so that every issue has that Ace Double look. Strange collage, heroin stories. Like looking into the symbols of a personal mythology without the key. (HL-12)

*****

CIVITAS Dec. 1987 ($1 from PO Box 26, Swain, NY 14884): This is the American branch of Hans Reusch's international organization seeking to end all animal experimentation now. (See the BOOKS section in FF24 for more details). There's lots here on drug side effects and the futility of animal testing, rather than the factory farming and fur issues that occupy much of the animal rights' movement. An interesting approach, with much literature available. (S-8t)

*****

CLOUD 247 (10 cents per page from PO Box 1361, Bellingham, WA 98227): "More material will follow more $, logically." This is sort of socially-conscious mail art, an envelope stuffed with things about Dolphins and contras and meat eating and water birthing and a feather and a little origami swan and art and photos and a bits of zines and books. No doubt every package is individualized; if you're intrigued, a buck will get you in on the ground floor.

*****

CLOUDS & THEIR TRUCKERS ($1 (?) from Alis.tasia, 906 S. Maple, Urbana, IL 61801): A collection of collages held together by a sort of prose poem. It is basically an appreciation of an attempt to empathise with the truckers' life. Published in a very limited edition, I suspect this is unavailable, but the composers are likely to pop up with more creativity in the future. (S-14)

*****

Year 2000 is just a decade-plus-two away:

The MILLENNIUM,

also means the Golden Age, or the Second Coming. Hitler raved about "a New Millennium." Over 5,000 articles and 600 books have recently been published with prophecies by futurists and planners about the first year of the 21st century. Fundamentalists warn 2000 A.D. could contain the "day of judgment." The Pope promises "a year of great jubilee" to observe the 2,000th anniversary of Christ's birth. Let's network with alternative visions for this fateful year. Write Basic Choices, 1023 Drake, Madison, WI 53715. We'll get back to you with our views, those of others, and a bibliography if you include a Self Addressed Stamped Envelope.

THE COLLECTIVE NETWORKER NEWSLETTER #114-115 ($1 from PO Box 912, San Francisco, CA 94101): All the news you need to know about starting and being in a collective living or working situation. #114 contains the tale of my own collective living experience, just in case you can't get enough of my writing. #115 is the "Last Roundup" issue, a super-large extravaganza of reprints and farewells. [This publication has now suspended operations, but back issues may still be available]. (S-12t & S-24t)

*****

THE COLLECTORS RECORD GUIDE & NEWS #7 ($24/yr from A. Griebler, 30 Allendale Close, Sydenham, London SE26 5DX, ENGLAND): A trading post for people to buy and sell collectible records. The editor is apparently willing to type subscribers' want lists so they look pretty. Also contains extensive news of record fairs in the UK. (HL-40)

*****

COLTSFOOT Vol. VIII #6 ($10/yr from James Troy, PO Box 313A, Shipman, VA 22971): A small journal about wild plants, edible, medicinal, or just plain interesting. #6 includes a comprehensive checklist of the edible wild plants of Maryland and notes on natural insecticides. (D-24r)

*****

COLUMBIANA, Fall 1987 ($2 from Chesaw Route, Box 83-F, Oroville, WA 98844): A well-done magazine for the Columbia River bioregion. The concerns are primarily ecological, but this leaves a lot of room. In the Fall ish, a new proposed nuke facility comes in for close examination, a veteran activist explains how to influence the US Forest Service, and there are fascinating pictures of a belt-driven flour mill. (S-80t)

*****

THE COMIC BOOK NEWSLETTER #16 ($1/2 issues from Rocket Graphics, PO Box 233, Loveland, OH 45140): A review of the small/independent/minicomic business, desktop published on a monthly basis. Editor Jim Pack splits his space between reviews and news stories, all of them focusing on pretty small press runs indeed. The layout is attractive and the market is wide open, thanks to the demise of COMICS UPDATE. (S-16t)

*****

COMICS BUYER'S GUIDE #736 ($1.50 from 700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990): This probably qualifies as an institution rather than a zine: a fat weekly guide to new comics from mainstream and major independent publishers and a ton of collector's ads, all rolled into one. Every issue reprints lots of sample pages from new work, a boon if you can't find the stuff on the local shelves but can't afford to order everything. And if you want to buy, sell, or trade, someone here is interested. (T-60t)

*****

THE COMICS JOURNAL #117 ($3.50 from 1800 Bridgegate St. #101, Westlake Village, CA 91361): A fat monthly, this one has less news than CBG but goes into it in more depth. They also concentrate on features -- censorship in comics, interviews, that sort of thing. Lots of reprinted panels and strips, with far too many aimed at teenage boys. A force to be reckoned with, but only by hardcore comics fans. (S-128t)

*****

COMMON GROUND #53 ($3 from 305 San Anselmo Ave. #217, San Anselmo, CA 94960): There are a lot of paths in the New Age, and this is a directory of some of them. Every entry is simply an advertisement a few paragraphs long. A few of the hundreds of things covered here: Dreamsinging, biofeedback, bodywork, integrated medicine, trance channeling, and Hakomi. Most entries are in the SF Bay Area, but a few range as far as other states. (O-120t)

*****

COMPOST NEWSLETTER Nov.-Dec. 1987 ($10/yr from Valerie Walker (mark "for CNL"), 729-5th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94118): A zine from a combination covern & Mac Users' Group -- who else would have a "Disk of Shadows"? CNL appears to print whatever the members feel like sending; that ranges from comics to ritual to just plain silliness. Exceedingly odd surreal comix in the November ish. December gives us lots of herbal notes, a marriage ceremony, and some Yule celebration ideas. (S-12)

*****

CONCERNED WOMEN FOR AMERICA Vol. 10 #1 ($15/yr from 122 "C" St. NW #800, Washington, DC 20001): Someone added me to this mailing list, and I'm amazed at how rabidly repressive and conservative some people are. CWA basically wants to stamp out any vestige of thought about values or concern for AIDS victims in their rush to preserve the world they thought existed at their debutante balls. Frightening. Don't send them any money; ask for a sample copy and see what happens. (S-24t)

*****

CON CITY COMIX ($1.50 from TKA, 3021 N. Southport, Chicago, IL 60657): A collaboration between T. Kevin Atherton and Carol Sobocinski, spotlighting the city of Chicago. There's a guide to the city, plus a couple of other features. The history of coffee is amusing, and the story of Bo's Ultimate Box is a cautionary tale for the technophile. A good intro to TKA's style. (HL-16)

*****

CONFLICT 46 ($1.75 from Gerard Cosloy, PO Box 264, New York, NY 10009): A pfanzine that alternates between bold truths and outright lies, all couched in such outrageous language that you'll never know which is which. Cosloy is the King of the insult review, and he exercises his skill in every issue. Of course, he also compliments and praises the things he likes, but no one ever seems to notice that. #46 contains, in addition to the usual ton of record reviews, a Black Snakes interview and some strange pornographic vignettes. (S-18r)

*****

THE CONNECTION #147-148 ($2 from Erwin S. Strauss, 4271 Duke St. #D-10, Alexandria, VA 22304): An apa for libertarians, conservatives, anarchists, and others of outre social bent. TC is getting back to its old style of knock-down drag-out arguments about most anything, with a modicum of mudslinging and a lot of detailed allegations, about everything from the state of the Libertarian Party to the possibilities of panarchy or propietary communities to kiddie porn. A bit daunting but can be fascinating. (D-72r)

*****

CONTRAST #3 ($2.50 from PO Box 10832, Beverly Hills, CA 90213): A nice slick cover pfanzine that's staked out the territory somewhere between hardcore and media darlings. They talk to a lot of folks who make innovative music, like Adrian Belew and Hugo Largo and Wire and the Replacements and a couple of dozen more. They also review records (with venom in many cases) and sneak in a few poems and a strange short story. Excellent intelligent coverage. (S-82t)

*****

CONTROLLED ABANDON #2 (FREE from 2526 Hillsboro St. #789, Raleigh, NC 27607): It might help to throw in some postage, I dunno. This is basically a collection of rants and manifestos from the farther-out corners of movements like SubGentility and Neoism. You can find dirty pictures, philosophical musings, and complete incomprehensibilities on the very same page. May break you loose from your humdrum daily existence -- or just confuse you. Includes a long section on CIA destabilization activities. (S-24)

*****

CONVERGING PATHS, Winter Solstice 1987 ($4 from PO Box 63, Mt. Horeb, WI 53572): A pagan journal that tends more towards theoretical discussion than most, while still having enough ritual and personal testimonials to be recognizable as part of the genre. Fascinating articles include those on raising pagain kids, magical ethics, the idea of tithing while a pagan, and being pagan in National Parks. Fascinating and informative. (S-32)

*****

COSLOY YOUTH #1 ($1.50 from 1751 Wroxton Ct. #1, Houston, TX 77005): A new entry in the rude and crude pfanzine sweepstakes, less taken with itself than most. Funny drug-befuddled diary of the New Music Seminar anchors this issue. Also some live reviews, an interview with Sonic Youth, and the expected crop of bluntly nasty record reviews (alternating with gushing praise). (S-22t)

*****

COUNTERATTACK Vol. 1 #2 ($2 from 305 Madison Ave. #1166, New York, NY 10165): The newsletter of Refuse & Resist, a fairly broad coalition of groups opposed to current repressive policies (yes, Virginia, there are Commies involved). They're calling for a variety of actions to protest I-9 forms, draft registration, and AIDS hysteria, among other things. Lots of ideas for building a culture of resistance. (S-16t)

*****

COUNTER CULTURE #3 ($1.40 & 56 cents postage from Sean Wolf Hill, 1922 Emerson St., Dayton, OH 45406): Sean has tapped the collective unconscious with this "Journal of Diner Appreciation". Turns out there are a lot of folks out there who like the traditional eating spots and write to praise them and make them known. Lots of photos, press clippings, sad stories of closed diners and happy stories of open ones, plus an extensive address list for the traveling dinerphile. (S-18r)

*****

COUNTER INFORMATION #16 (FREE from 43 Candlemaker Row, Pigeonhole 81, Edinbrugh, SCOTLAND): The sheet is free but remember, postage isn't -- send some IRCs. This is an anarchist-sounding resistance paper, which devotes most of its space to riots and rent strikes and other indications that the revolution is already starting. The emphasis is on locally-controlled direct action. (A4-4t)

*****

COUNTRY ACTIVIST Vol. 4 #11 ($10/yr from PO Box 92, Redway, CA 95560): A tabloid paper of environmental and peace activism. There are a couple of fascinating articles in #11: one is an interview with Katya, who smashed up a Vandenburg computer; the other is by an unidentified Naval source who talks about our growing first-strike capability. Also lots of Earth First! news and other hopeful messages. (T-20r)

*****

COUNTRY PLUS Sept. 1987 ($8.50/yr from Sherry Schroeder, 6933 Westhampton Dr., Alexandria, VA 22307): A tabloid of C&W and related music for folks living in and around the nation's capitol. Extensive lists of coming events are spread out along with coverage of the famous and not-so-famous performers coming through the area. Most innovative feature: a two-page spread on country & western dancing, with instructions. (T-20t)

*****

CRAFTS & CURIOS Dec. 1987-Feb. 1988 (SASE from PO Box 6186, Baltimore, MD 21231): Mostly a classified ad market for witches, astrologers, pagans, and the like. The editor, Gypsy Star, works in an occasional book review, Wiccan broadside, or bit of craft lore. (HL-8)

*****

CRI DE LOON 8.5 (50 cents from TKA, 3021 N. Southport, Chicago, IL 60657): A minicomic featuring Kevin's favorite character Vej. In this issue, he finds out how to use the sexy underwear for men that's popping up everywhere these days. (M-8)

*****

A CRITIQUE OF AMERICA Nov./Dec. 1987 ($10/yr from 405 W. Washington #418, San Diego, CA 92103-9832): A huge magazine that is trying to present "high grade, polemic writing of diverse points of view." They're not kidding about the diversity -- there's everything from rabid right-wing ravings about the commie-symp Norman Lear to a sympathetic look at the plight of the nation's homeless. Also contains poetry, short stories, music reviews, and photoessays (with some color shots). A lot of magazine for the money. (O-84t)

*****

CRITTERS #23 ($3.95 from Fantagraphics, 1800 Bridgegate Rd. #101, Westlake Village, CA 91361): A slick and pro-looking comic book filled with funny animals. JP Morgan and Marc Schirmeister are the only artists here that I know, but there are plenty more; the animals range from cute & cuddly to strange and snarling. This is a special issue, with a musical theme to many of the strips and a flexidisc bound in; "March of the Sinister Ducks" on the latter is absolutely hilarious! (S-64)

*****

CULT COMIX #6 ($1 CASH from Mumbles, PO Box 8312, Wichita, KS 67208): Art from the margins of society and comprehension. Jake Berry is represented with more typographical mishaps, The Haddock contributes a surrealistic nekkid lady, and Scott Phillips gives us Tammy up-close and disgusting. (D-8)

*****

DAGGER #4-5 ($1 from Tim Hinely, 201 Frances Ave., Linwood, NJ 08221): A pfanzine heavy on the live reviews, which are fun even though Tim keeps showing up too late for the lead act. #4 includes a top ten fanzine list (including FF, thanks Tim) and interviews with Slap Shot and Stetz. Best part of #5 is the interview with promoter Randy Now, reviled by many. (D-48)

*****

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CONCEPT #5

To end foreign competition workers in this country should receive hours worked certificates to buy products made in the U.S.A. ONLY. Adopted world-wide this concept plus unfixed wages and a year-round paid even age work force will end inflation, unemployment and illegal immigration. Send S.A.S.E. to must-be-adopted

5 WAY PEACE PLAN
Box 2243
YOUNGSTOWN — OHIO, 44504

$$

THE DAILY DEAD #1 ($1 from D.R. Pawlak, PO Box 7152, Port Huron, MI 48301-7152): A very angry little zine that's come out of the punk orbit. Much of it is concerned with things like animal rights and South Africa and Ramboism in the US Army and so on. The message seems to be: Stop it or we'll stop you! Lots of stark graphics and reprinted stuff. (D-80)

*****

DAILY IMPULSE Vol. 3 #4-5 ($5/yr from PO Box 90312, San Diego, CA 92109): A zine from folks with two strong interests: anarchy and punk rock. This leads them to explain the music for the anarchists, and explain the politics for the punks, and everyone's happy. It also leads to innovative series such as the one concluding in #4 on living on the streets -- how to run away and survive. #5 recounts efforts to start up a punk store in Chula Vista. (S-8r)

*****

DARK STARR Vol. 2 #3 ($4 from M. Talarico & Daughter Publications, PO Drawer 417, Oceanside, CA 92054): The size of DS is both its blessing and its curse. It's a blessing because it allows them to attract such horrific little gems as Wayne Allen Sallee's "Maker" and William Rose's "Sally". But for every great little horror, SF or fantasy story here, there's a couple of 1-2 page clunkers, incidents without a real plot. Maybe DS needs a little selectivity...or just readers who won't give up after a few losers, and so miss the good parts. (HL-96r)

*****

THE DARTMOUTH REVIEW Vol. 8 #10 ($25/yr from PO Box 343, Hanover, NH 03755): A conservative college paper with a couple of differences. First, there aren't any Coors ads -- this one seems to be supported by alumni and local ads. Second, they're more concerned with national politics and issues than the antics of the local left. Of course, they find time to discuss things like the outrageous tuition, but all in all, the focus is on broader issues. (T-12t)

*****

DAVE'S SECULAR LENS #7 ($1.50 from Dave D'Ammassa, 323 Dodge St., East Providence, RI 02914): Dave is a junior in high school, and putting out a sfanzine that is a heck of a lot better than the stuff I was publishing at his age. He has help; the no-holds-barred lettercol argument between various fans about the state of sfanzines is wondrous fun. But Dave can hold his own with a typer; he talks of xmas overload and network television with equal flair. (S-12)

*****

DAVOID #2-5 (50 cents (?) from PO Box 348, Hawthorne, NJ 07507): The Zen koan of new wave comix. Or, to put it more simply, none of this makes sense. The artist hits you upside the head with non sequitirs and panels that don't follow one another until your left brain goes whimpering off to a corner and lets your right brain enjoy the fine surreal drawing. (S-4)

*****

THE DAY MARTIN FLIPPED OUT (50 cents (?) from Eelskin Comix, PO Box 85457, Seattle, WA 98145-1457): A reprint from EELSKIN COMIX #3. This is the story of Marty, a man pursued by various unlikely hallucinations, and how his life was ruined. A cautionary tale, though what they're cautioning against remains to be seen. (M-48)

*****

DEADBEAT #5-7 ($10/4 issues from 1338 Haight St., San Francsico, CA 94117): A Bay Area tabloid of art and writing and stuff, busting out of sanity in a sixtiesish way. #5 is titled "BUM", a "special music issue" take-off on another well-known local pub, although to tell the truth, it's not much of a parody. But what the hell, the gruesome RK Sloane comic makes up for that. #6 seems to be the "Drugs" ish, for the end of summer I guess, with instructions on cleaning used needles, lots of bizarre art, and screeds about the 60s. For the delinquent in all of us. In #7 the editors try to escape back to their planned literary zine, and end up publishing the most bizarre and disgusting stories in the whole bay area. No flowers and Grandma's cookies in this litmag! (T-24)

*****

DEAR MOM ($2 (?) from Box 5273, MTSU, Murfreesboro, TN 37132): This might have fit in the poetry section, since part of it is poem fragments from Tom House. But the other part is photos by Ladybrady, and the whole bears about the same relation to poetry that music video does to music. Fortunately, the synergy here works; the poetry fragments are only a line or two long, the photos are rife with ambiguities themselves, the the whole gets you thinking instead of forcing thoughts on you. (S-20)

*****

THE DECADENT WORKER #76-96 ($1/5 issues from Kerry Thornley, PO Box 5498, Atlanta, GA 30307): A buck will get you a nice lump of these plus whatever flotsam Kerry has handy. Organ of the Revolutionary Surrealist Vandal Party, this is where Kerry discusses his own involvement in the JFK assassination and the web of conspiracies that surround it, as well as communist anarchism, mind control, and assorted what-not. Nixon, Kronstadt, Oswald, Tucker, Marx, Hughes -- these are just a few of the names mentioned. (S-1)

*****

DECENTRALIZE! #6 ($1 from Carol Moore, PO Box 3531, Georgetown Stn., Washington, DC 20007): Carol is active in all sorts of organizations, chiefly libertarian and green. She has a vision of a future of networked independent communities and is working to make it come true by helping set up the networks. With #6 she's circulating a formal "Proposal for Decentralist Networks", to test the waters for support. (S-6)

*****

DEJA VU #2 ($1 or the Usual from Eric and Kathy Mayer, 1771 Ridge Rd. E, ROchester, NY 14622): Eric doesn't go out of his way to trumpet the fact, but this is a sfanzine. One can tell mainly by the writers -- McGuff, Skel, Strelkov -- who turn up in other sfanzines. Most interesting in #2 was a letter from Jay Harber about medical hassles. A nice friendly relaxed bit of reading. (D-40r)

*****

DELINEATOR #5 ($5 or The Usual from Alan WHite, 455 E. 7th St. #4, San Jacinto, CA 92383-8401): A sfanzine from the fringes - comics and movie fandom, mostly, plus a healthy dose of near-naked nuns. Alan uses most of his space to chronicle parties and cons, and I can't think of a better thing to do with it; there are also lots of pictures of sfannish celebrities and articles on things like 3D movies and new books. Nice set of fannish license plate pics too. (S-98)

*****

DE PROFUNDIS #189-190 ($5/yr from LASFS, 11513 Burbank Blvd., N. Hollywood, CA 91601): About the best way there is to keep track of the biggest SF club around, the Los Angeles Science Fantasy Society. For us once and future members, the best thing here is the meeting minutes; for outsiders, the magazine and book reviews might produce a flicker of interest, though not much. (S-10r)

*****

DEREGULATOR #12-14 ($6/yr from PO Box 1063, Chapel Hill, NC 27510): A journal of libertarian opinion on the news that has made impressive strides in thoughtfulness and readability over the last year or so. Editor Rick Henderson is building up a nice stable of writers as well, with lots of stuff from Jorge Amador, Louis Rukeyser, and more. A fight against big government with facts and ridicule. Lawrence Reed pokes fun at New York's attempts to regulate the free market in #14. (S-16)

*****

DER GOLEM #1 ($1 from PO Box 3414, Providence, RI 02906): A new zine of radically unorthodox Judaism. No doubt they will be judged heretical by some, but the writers are trying to establish direct contact with God through prayer, thought, and faith. Contents include rants, new translations, and whole new slants on Jewish myth and legend. (D-12t)

*****

DIALOGUE #72-73 ($1 from Brad Ott, 916 Euterpe, New Orleans, LA 70130): A progressive more-or-less monthly journal that always contains a bit of the unexpected. In #72 it's the (Anti-)"Voting" collage by the Molly Stiemer collective and the bit on Industrial Engineering by yours truly. There's also more on voting or not and debate on the recent Papal visit and whether the leftist response was unduly mean to all Catholics. #73 continues the voting debate and discusses the local leftist politics. (HL-24r)

*****

DIARIST'S JOURNAL #1 ($2 from 102 W. Water St., Lansford, PA 18232): WOuld you believe something new under the sun? This is solely devoted to diaries, new and old, published an unpublished, and primarily consists of diary excerpts. These brief glimpses into other lives are mainly fascinating and certainly never boring. There are also reviews of a few books on diary-writing and some thoughts on the genre. Open to submissions from any diarist. (T-20t)

*****

THE DILLINGER RELIC 55 ($1 from Arthur D. Hlavaty, PO Box 52028, Durham, NC 27701): Arthur is still smarting off, though #55 begins to look a tad like a genzine. This is probably because he splits off football, a convention report, and some computer notes to their own pages, instead of including them in the diary format. Delightfully funny and full of leads to the wonders of the universe. (S-12r)

*****

DISAPPROVED THEORIES #1-2 ($1.75 from Samantha Lowry, PO Box 1886, Cambridge, MA 02238): A collection of marginals doing their usual spouting. Bob Black is prominently represented in #1, with some reprints plus a new piece on the wisdom of John "Baboon Dooley" Crawford. There's also a review of the new Star Trek series, dirty jokes, stuff on Jello Biafra and censorship, and various ranting and raving. #2 is the special

"Christmas" issue, featuring labor troubles at the North Pole, various Jesus jokes, and other Bah/Humbug stuff. Not for the easily distressed but a whale of fun for the marginals fan. (S-28r)

*****

DISASTER #5 ($2 from PO Box 1211, Pasadena, MD 21122): All the requisite features of a pfanzine: interviews, live reviews, record reviews, and a smattering of record company ads, all (except the last) micro-reduced. Editor Bill Callahan has a nice deadpan style. #5 includes Girl Trouble and Jad Fair, among others. (S-32r)

*****

DISCUSSION BULLETIN #26 ($1 from PO Box 1564, Grand Rapids, MI 49501): An apa for "third-force socialists", a loose grouping of those who believe (generally) in some form of anarchy and socialism for the just system. The discussions here are often abstruse, being for internal development rather than outreach. Topics in #26 include labor vouchers, the history of socialism, and a comparison between the Socialist Labor Party and the Jehovah's Witnesses. (HL-24)

*****

DISINFORMATION #7 ($10 from Institute for International Studies, 1815 H St. NW #600, Washington, DC 20006): A respectable-looking slick journal that wants to warn everyone that the Soviets are insincere about everything. #7 discusses nuclear war and AIDS. One nagging question remains: what could the Soviets do that these folks couldn't take as evidence? Nice samples of photos airbrushed to remove unpeople. (S-16t)

*****

DISTORTED FEATURES #1 (50 cents (?) from Mike Morris, PO Box 4687, Portland, OR 97208): A minicomic of grotesquely distorted drawings of strange people on surfboards. Quasimodo and Cerberus, as well as less savory characters, put in an appearance. On eyestrain green paper. (M-8)

*****

DIXIE VOICE #7 ($1 from Melissa Manuel, Route 2, Box 121-A, Germanton, NC 27019): A pfanzine dedicated to "The SOuthern Alternative" that's gotten pretty impressive in its one-year life. This issue includes features on Mitch Easter and Other Bright Colors, as well as many other less well-known Southern bands and lots of concert coverage. There's also a few strange bonuses like the phototour of London's Hampstead district. (S-48)

*****

DM NEWSLETTER 37 (A couple of stamps from PO Box 58152, Philadelphia, PA 19102-8152): A rather irregular publication from fringe rock idols The Dead Milkmen, mostly written by the boys. There's a lot of strange humor here, as well as tour diaries, notes on newly available merchandise (and a warning that the new Enigma EP is sort of a rip-off) and zine reviews. (D-8)

*****

DMZ Vol. 1 #4 ($10/yr from VVAW, PO Box 74, Brooklyn, NY 11215): Newsletter of the New York and New Jersey chapters of Vietnam Veterans Against the War. They're one of several groups of vets speaking out for social change. This issue includes the story of Brian Willson's aborted congressional testimony, plus news of various actions and publications from the antiwar movement. (HL-8t)

*****

DOWN BY THE BOARDWALK Oct. 1987 ($1 from White Knight Productions, PO Box 656, Wautoma, WI 54982): This is ostensibly a zine for record collectors. The editor will reprint want lists and send them to the subscribers. I guess there hasn't been much response lately, since most of this issue is taken up by feature articles on some of the performers from the TV show Kids, Inc. (S-14)

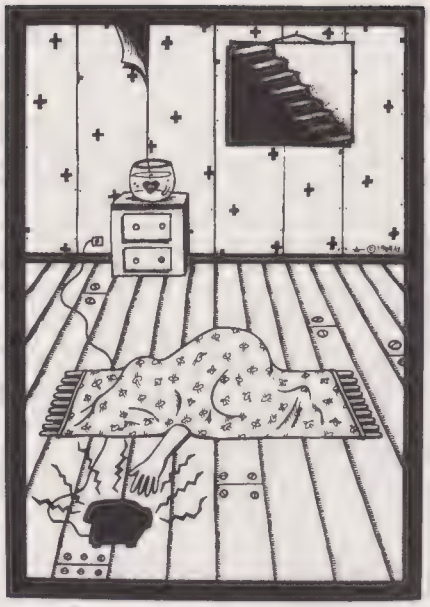
*****

DOWN RIGHT FUN #1-2 ($1.50 from Todd Hendrickson, 208 W. Ludington Ave., Ludington, MI 49431): This one's revived something I haven't seen much of lately: scene reports, from places as far afield as Seattle and Glasgow. There's also all the usual pfanzine features. #2 includes interviews with 63 Eyes, Desparate Minds, and Youthquake -- among others. Todd really plugs the bands he likes, so there's no doubt about the editorial stance. Comes with lots of neat stickers. (S-36)

*****

DRAFT NOtices Nov./Dec. 1987-Jan./Feb. 1988 ($10/yr from COMD, PO Box15195, San Diego, CA 92115): The Committee Opposed to Militarism and the Draft is one of the organizations that's not slowing down their efforts just because of the apparent lull in prosecuting non-registrants. Indeed, they're still out leafletting high schools, as well as publishing articles about war toys, human rights in the armed forces, the INF treaty, and other antiwar concerns. The most recent ish contains an update on Gillam Kerley's case and one on the antics of my congresscritter, Gerry Solomon. (S-10)

*****



THE DREAM OF HEAVEN (SASE from Jim Hayes, 96 Marion St., Morgantown, WV 26505): A short pamphlet flanked by some collage illustrations. The thrust is that we can do anything if only we set our minds to the dream. Well, it's cheaper than a firewalking class. (S-4)

*****

DR. FREE'S RADIO REMEDIES #1 (Donation from Radio Free UAB, Box 35, 136 University Center, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL 35294): A student radio station zine with a difference: they don't have the station yet. These intrepid youth are busy trying to raise the money and explain to their fellow students why they want to do so; a few notes on new music and proposed formats are included. (HL-12t)

*****

THE DROOD REVIEW OF MYSTERY Vol. VII #9-11 ($16/12 issues from PO Box 8872, Boston, MA 02114): My main mystery connection -- in large part because I write for it. Don't get me wrong, though, Drood would be great even without me; they're the only place around making a conscientious effort to review new mysteries without a ferocious time delay. #9 reports on the hot new James Ellroy novel and looks back at the Nameless series. #11 contains the annual recommendations of mysteries for the holidays. (S-12t)

*****

THE DRUIDIC TIMES Vol. 24 #4063 (SASE, Contribution or trade from Martin Billheimer, 2778 Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60647): Well, these folks aren't Isaac Bonewits; more like stand-up comics. This is Druidism at its most sarcastic, making fun of organized religions of the mainstream and the fringe with equal bad grace. Rituals, news, reviews of other purious zines. (S-5)

*****

DUB GOLEM #2-3 (50 cents from William Dockery, 3226A River Ave., Columbus, GA 31904): A minicomic that doesn't fit the usual mold, seeming to be more a collection of stuff thrown together than any well-planned story. Dockery and P.D. Wilson provide short comics, poems and drawings, the latter being the most interesting because one doesn't expect them to mean anything. (M-3)

*****

THE DUPLEX PLANET #87-33 ($1 from David Greenberger, PO Box 1230, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866): I guess the big news is that the Duplex Nursing Home has closed. However, thanks to a backlog of material and to keeping in touch with the former residents, David assures us he'll be bringing us the thoughts and wisecracks of the Duplexers for a long time to come. Presented in a simple Q&A format, DP gives a forum to David's older friends to express themselves and perhaps enlighten a few of us. (D-16)

*****

EARTH FIRST! Mabon 1987 ($15/yr from PO Box 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703): Personally, I find the slogan "Back to the Pleistocene" a bit chilling -- I happen to like being warm, dry and well-fed. But then I'm a speciesist, and these folks claim to be otherwise. Most of the coverage here is of direct action to save the environment, from attacking dams to hiding in trees scheduled to be cut down, together with urging to get out there and do likewise. I just hope I'm not downstream from whichever dam they finally decide to blow up to prove they're serious. (T-40t)

*****

EARWAX #8 ($2 from Harry Baggs, 444 Ringwood Ave., Wanaque, NJ 07465): A pfanzine that is quite impossible to pigeonhole. It opens with a bunch of hardcore and thrash live reviews, but later on there are garage bands, industrial noise, punkture, and other genres. Lots of logos and photos, plenty of reviews of zines and records and bands. Looks like there's plenty of fun in NJ. Harry will also send you a complete set of back issues for $6, including SUBWAX filler zines and special surprises -- quite a bargain and loaded with great reviews and comix. (S-44)

*****

EAT MY SHIT #5 ($10/yr from EMS, PO Box 12504, Raleigh, NC 27605): DO NOT USE THE FULL NAME ON THE ENVELOPE OR THE POST AWFUL WILL GET PISSED. There's all sorts of great stuff hiding behind the new slick cover -- reminiscences on living in lots of slummy places, natural childbirth, an interview in Washington's Peace Park with someone who's been standing vigil since 1984, Rousseau, and lots more. Avi Naftel contributes an appropriately shitty story about his prison experiences. Good reading for anyone who can think. (S-24t)

*****

ECOLOGY CENTER NEWSLETTER Vol. XVII #9-10 ($20/yr from 1403 Addison St., Berkeley, CA 94702): Remember when everyone was talking about ecology and the environment? OK, that's what reading this is like. Some folks are still heavily into the sturggle for the earth, and this is a good place to get into the network. Each issue apparently has a different focus; #9 is on the California Water Plan, #10 on Eastern European environmentalists. (T-16)

*****

ECOMEDIA BULLETIN #14-17 ($10/yr from PO Box 915, Stn. F, Toronto, ONT M4Y 2N9, CANADA): A biweekly anarchist news service. They cover a lot of things that don't pop up in the establishment press, from an overview of Canada's water problems to civil disobedience in defense of Malaysia's rain forests. A tad too ready to assume that there's nothing true or good in your morning paper, but definitely a valuable resource. (HL-4t)

*****

THE ECONOMICS MULTILOGUE (Contact Richard McKenney, 1339-B Rose St., Berkeley, CA 94702): An apa by any other name...this is a product of Action Linkage, the group that's trying to shepherd us into a better future. The subject here is economics, but not like you learned it in college. Instead, the broad sweep of things and bold new ideas are the hot topics. I don't see anything overly profound -- but there's nothing overly stupid either, and a willingness to explore new options. (S-22r)

*****

EELSKIN COMIX #5 (50 cents from PO Box 85457, Seattle, WA 98145-1457): A collection of pretty thoroughly amateurish stuff, assembled with more verve than care. There's a strip about the KKK in Seattle, but that's been done before, so I'd have to say the best thing in this issue is the instructions for making an Expresso Bong. (S-20) Available soon: The Blasphemy Issue, $1.50 & Age Statement. I've seen a preview copy, and it is indeed rude, crude and disgusting -- and even funny in spots. Don't buy it if you're easily offended by cheap shots at the Supreme Deity or Law 'n Order, though.

*****

ELDRITCH SCIENCE #1 ($3 from George Phillies, 87-6 Park Ave., Worcester, MA 01605): A new sfanzine dedicated to publishing SF and fantasy. This first issue is an extremely mixed bag, with some competent journeyman fiction, an excellent Holmesian pastiche, and a truly awful story of interstellar piracy. George needs to get enough material to tighten up his standards a bit if this is to succeed. (S-30r)

*****

ELECTROGENESIS #14 ($19.95/yr from 1940 Ginger #40, Oxnard, CA 93030): A publication devoted to electronic and other futuristic music. The layout is quite intriguing, with things jumping around from page to page in a visual analog of the typical synthesizer tune. Editor Len Wiles keeps track of new music and new equipment, publishes short stories and articles and interviews the heavy hitters in the business. #14 features a long interview with Doug Walker of Alien Planetscapes, covering everything from his politics to his musical theories to the equipment he uses. (S-32)

*****

THE ELEVEN METER TIMES & JOURNAL Vol. 5 #9 ($2 from PO Box 1019, Lemon Grove, CA 92045): This is for CB radio folks and those of like persuasion. This is a pretty uppity zine; they teach you how to modify your rig to put out illegal amounts of power and have little but contempt for the FCC's stupid regulations. A mix of gossip, polemic, and what seems to be sound technical information, with lots of justification for their stance on the laws. (D-20r)

*****

THE ELNA NEWSLETTER July/Aug. 1987 ($25/yr from Esperanto League for North America, PO Box 1129, El Cerrito, CA 94530): Sort of a journal of record of the Esperanto movement in this country, mainly devoted to meetings and mentions in the press. Oddly enough, much of it is in English, though some parts are in that funny language with all the j's and little hats. (S-12t)

*****

EMPIRE MONTHLY #4-5 ($1 from Patrick Daly, 4350 N. Cicero, Chicago, IL 60641): A zine devoted in part to new Chicago bands and in part to old standbys, put out by a Chicago record store. Coverage ranges from Bohnoxious and Sponge to Cheap Trick, X, and Black Sabbath, with side trips to esoterica such as John Cale. A mix of live reportage and history, with some nice photos. (S-20t)

*****

EMPTY TIMES #3 (An IRC from Joseph Raimond, Muggenhoferstr. 39, 8500 Nurnberg, WEST GERMANY): A newsletter that revolves around the Empty Records label, which may be reached at the same address. Besides their own stuff they do interviews (S.A.D. in #3), reviews, and some thoughts on the indie music scene. (D-12r)

*****

EQUAL TIME #144 ($30/yr from 711 W. Lake St. #504, Minneapolis, MN 55408): A newspaper for the Minnesota gay & lesbian community. Lots of legal and political news (much of it bad), plus local events and ads. (T-16t)

*****

ERC NEWSLETTER Nov. 1987-Jan. 1988 ($5/yr from PO Box 460, Floyd, VA 24091): I don't think I've ever been to Floyd County, but I know I'd like to visit. This newsletter is put out by a bunch of people who are a real community, friends sharing and searching together. They swap tapes, hold classes and concerts, talk about home schooling and gardening, and otherwise support one another. An inspiration for other locales. (S-12)

*****

EUREKA! #1-6 (The Usual or SASE from Nicki Lynch, 4207 Davis Ln., Chattanooga, TN 37416): This zine is devoted to Dr. Who, but it's not like most "media" zines. Rather than printing fan fiction, Nicki runs news about the series, retrospectives on past plots, and information about conventions and touring actors. Who gossip central. (S-10)

*****

THE EVENT #24 ($12/yr from PO Box 203, Pequannock, NJ 07440): A naturist publication for the east coast. With it being below freezing outside right now, somehow I'm not attracted to the prospect of stripping down, but the writers here nonetheless make a convincing case for shucking clothes in the right circumstances. Naturism is a rounded philosophy of life, carefully distinguished by its proponents from nudism; pick up a copy to find more about this, as well as where to go to have fun in the sun. (S-38t)

*****

EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT FREE MEAT (35 cents & age statement from PO Box 177, E. Brunswick, NJ 08816): What is free meat? "Technically, FREE MEAT is the term which describes what you become after you've passed out at a party". This little public-service pamphlet will teach you how to recognize the state, and discusses its causes and consequences. For an extra $1, you can get your own FREE MEAT button to show your awareness of the problem. (M-8)

*****

EXTRA! Vol. 1 #4-5 ($24/yr from FAIR, 666 Broadway #400, New York, NY 10012): The newsletter of Fairness & Accuracy In Reporting, this one lets you know just how biased the conservative media in this country are. #4 is a special issue on "Nicaragua and the US Media -- A History of Lies." Point by point, the document the massive administration-sponsored disinformation campaign that molds most of our views on that country. #5 focuses on media coverage of the recent summit. Required reading. (S-16t)

*****

THE FADING UNIVERSE #1-2 (50 cents from William Dockery, 3226A River Ave., Columbus, GA 31904): The first parts of what is apparently a serialized SF adventure by sometime-comic reviewer Andrew Roller. The plot is so muddled as to boggle the mind; both of these issues are concerned with introducing characters and concepts and complications faster than the reader can absorb them. Perhaps there IS no story. (M-8t)

*****

FAG RAG #42/43-44 ($3.99 from PO Box 331, Kenmore Stn., Boston, MA 02215): An explicit journal of erotica for the male homosexual. Lots of stories, poems, scribbles, drawings and photos, mainly celebrating the joys of sex. No punches pulled at all -- this strikes me as stroke literature for a culture I'm not a part of. Some serious analysis as well. (S-40t)

*****

FALSE POSITIVE #9 ($3 from Donna Kossy, PO Box 432, Boston, MA 02258): A zine of collage and confusion, featuring beautiful color photocopy covers. The theme of this issue is "Youth", but somehow it doesn't gel very well; the collages and clippings and excerpts seem rather disconnected and don't fit together very well. But the "Kooks" pages, with contributions from real-life nuts, are as fun as ever. (S-24)

*****

FAN'TOONS #19 ($1.25 from Edd Vick, 5014-D Roosevelt Way NE, Seattle, WA 98105): A minizine, with some sympathies with the minicomic form but a more wide-ranging set of interests. Edd does publish a lot of small art -- #19 is the "Funny FOod" issue and so includes some eating jokes and talking carrots along with the usual furry animals and superhero types -- but he also goes in for text, reviews, locs and more. A morsel to savor. (M-32)

*****

FANZINE XING #7 ($1.50 from Liam Brooks, 21 Walnut St. #8, Malden, MA 02148): A collection of comics from various unknowns, many in the superhero/serial format that doesn't give one much in the first installment. Some of the art is pretty nice, particularly Liam's own and Michael Neno's Kirbyesque strip. (D-36)

*****

THE FBI PROJECT NEWSLETTER Vol. 1 #1 ($2 from PO Box 8275-FF, Ann Arbor, MI 48017): A new publication from Glen Roberts, editor of FULL DISCLOSURE. This one is dedicated to keeping an eye on the FBI, in part since they've been keeping an eye on him. Topics in the first issue include how to watch the FBI, FBI Black Bag job authorizations, and the civil rights abuses routinely perpetuated by this bunch of cops. (S-12t)

*****

FEMINIST BASEBALL 6 ($2 from PO Box 9609, Seattle, WA 93109): A journal of whatever the heck the editor can find lying around. There is some sports news here, but there's also film and music reviews, satirical ads, thoughts on the basis of criticism, short stories, existential philosophy, and other marginalia. A stew of the underground. (D-32r)

*****

FERRET #9 (75 cents (?) from Festering Publications, 2235 France Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55416): A minicomic with a full-color cover...and two versions of the bacover, just to drive collectors nuts. Ferret should be familiar to most of you. If not, he's the comics analog of a splatter film, rude, crude and funny...and not some fucking weasel. Recommended for sick minds. (M-20)

*****

FIBRE COMIX (50 cents from Don Glass, 1510 Pine St. #4F, Philadelphia, PA 19102): A collection of comics, most with a message: don't drink, don't smoke, don't support the NRA and other liberal causes. There are enough that are wryly on the money to make this quite amusing, though the printing is marginal. (M-28)

*****

OUT OF PRINT LIMITED EDITION FANTASY ART PORTFOLIOS For Sale From Private Collection. Most are signed and numbered by such artists as: Pound, Fabian, Kaluta, Mayerick, etc. Send long SASE for listing and prices to-TONG, P.O. Box 10849, Yuma, AZ. 85364

THE FICTION REVIEW Vol. 1 #3 ($3 from PO Box 1508, Tempe, AZ 85281): A nice collection of short stories. Maybe it's just me, but all the work in #3 seems to revolve around the ritualization of everyday life. Richard Kostelanetz carries this to an extreme with a barrage of one-sentence "Shorter Stories". Best bet: Robert Fox's Kafkaesque "The Office". (HL-38)

*****

FILE 770:69-70 ($1 from Mike Glyer, 5828 Woodman Ave. #2, Van Nuys, CA 91401): All the news that's fit to print about SF fandom, or at least all of it that Mike comes across -- and after years of publishing F770, he comes across a lot. Most of #70 is devoted to a detailed report on the last Worldcon, concentrating on the screwups but handing out praise to the rare few who deserve it. (S-20r)

*****

FILM THREAT #13 ($2.95 from PO Box 951, Royal Oak, MI 48068): One of the premiere zines of the nasty motion picture. Editor Christian Gore is fascinated by folks like John Waters and Nick Zedd and shares it with us. One nice feature is the extensive interview with George Stover -- an extra in many films. Nice change of pace from all the directors and producers. Also in #13: Bukowski, Rosa Von Praunheim, and a selection of sleazy film posters from the past. Lots of photos. (S-60t)

*****

FINAL DRAFT Vol. 1 #1 ($1 (?) from Volunteers for America, PO Box 75285, Washington, DC 20013): A new anti-draft publication. Most of this issue is devoted to an editorial by Paul Jacob and a letter from Major Mark Sellers, both denying the necessity of a draft. There's also some other information, some of it concealed by an extremely cluttered layout. (S-4)

*****

FLORIDA CONTACT LIST #4 (SASE from 475 Fox Grove Rd., Venice, FL 34293): Addresses and basic information for Florida bands, zines, distributors and other members of the punk community. Updated monthly, and all addresses rechecked. About 30 addresses. (S-1)

*****

FLORIDA LIFE #2 (50 cents from Dimestore, 17914 N. Inlet Dr., Strongsville, OH 44136): Dimestore is Ian Shires' minicomic label, so you can guess what this is. This issue was written during a Florida vacation, and puts forth the theory that seagulls rule the earth -- narrated by a seagull, of course. The art is only passable, and the story slow; in other words, this is better than half the minis I get. (M-8)

*****

FOLK & ROVERE #2 (? from Box 5609, Mollenberg, 7001 Trondheijm, NORWAY): Judging from the two-page calendar of art, film, and political events, Trondheim must be a hotbed of dissent and a fun place to live too. This is a leftwing tabloid covering anti-nuke protests and political scandals along with theater and live concerts (Euthanasia, Poison Girls). Seems like this is a good source of news for those who read Norwegian, with less theoretical jawboning than often found in the leftist press. Excellent graphics and printing. A guide for the Arctic-bound radical tourist. [review by Jim Reid-Cunningham].

*****

FORCED EXPOSURE #13 ($4 from PO Box 1611, Waltham, MA 02254): Forget the music coverage; you can only read about 500 nasty reviews before they're not funny any more, and FE passed that point long ago. Read it for the Culture: Steve Albini's diary of the final Big Black tour. Eugene Chadbourne's grade-school autobiography. Interview with dark corners artist Raymond Pettibon. Letter from Phil Dick to his agent. Porno movie reviews. That sort of thing. FE is a lifestyle for the deranged, barely contained between its slick color covers. (S-122t)

*****

FOUR FIVE ONE #3 ($1 (?) from PO Box 2374, Seattle, WA 98111): This one starts out a normal size and then keeps unfolding till you're holding a huge heavy-stock poster covered with bicolor graphics and strange writings. That's the good news. The bad news is that most of the stories and poetry here are pretty forgettable. Exceptions: Angela Sorby on nihilism, interview with Quentin Crisp. (S-16t)

*****

FRAZZLE 4 (50 cents from Eric Mayer, 1771 RIdge Rd. E, Rochester, NY 14622): A mini that is sort of a social digest for the minicomics world. Not that Eric attempts to cover the whole field or anything, but along with a few comix he prints short letters from other artists and fans. The effect is sort of like a (forgive me) mini-convention. (M-16)

*****

THE FREE CHINA JOURNAL Vol. IV #40 ($12/yr from Kwang Hwa Publishing (USA), 5 Greenway Plaza #216, Houston, TX 77046):

A tabloid written in Taiwan and published in the USA. It's an interesting mix; most of it is either cultural filler or news about the island's booming economy. There's still the occasional reference to "our sacred mission of recovering the mainland"; dreams die hard. (T-4t)

*****

FREEDOM NETWORK NEWS #12/13 ($1 from 9308 Farmington Dr., Richmond, VA 23229): The newsletter of Libertarian International, which tracks libertarian news in some 40 countries. Most of this is news of movement organizing, but there's also coverage of new restrictions on liberty and various struggles to defeat them around the world. Includes lots of contact addresses. (S-10t)

*****

FREEDOM NEWSDIGEST Vol. 6 #2 ($1 from PO Box 6163, San Bernardino, CA 92412): A digest of news of interest to conservative, limited-government Constitutionalists. They print a lot of (to them) scary news about new taxes in California, sound money lawsuits, challenges to the income tax, and so on. An interesting potpourri. (T-24t)

*****

FREEDOM SOCIALIST Sept.-Nov. 1987 ($5/yr from 5018 Ranier Ave. S., Seattle, WA 98118): The tabloid of the Freedom Socialist Party, an avowedly Bolshevik group. There's not much about their stands here because this is a special issue, highlighting a court case in which they are fighting to keep secret their internal documents from someone who is suing thme for a ton of money. It's worth sending a couple of bucks to find out what the brouhaha is about. (T-8t)

*****

FREEDOMWEEK Jan. 1988 (On Request from Humanistic Science Publications, PO Box 84116, San Diego, CA 92138): Contact sheet for a variety of San Diego freethought forums. Mostly it's useful to find out what's going on in that area; there are also small blurbs about famous past freethinkers. (S-2t)

*****

THE FREEDOM WRITER Vol. IV #7-Vol. V #1 ($10/yr from Simon, Porteus & Associates, PO Box 789, Housatonic, MA 01236): A newsletter dedicated to separation of church and state -- and, not incidentally, to opposing the religious right when they try for any political power, which may or may not be the same thing. Lots of scary news here on folks like Robertson, Falwell, and Bork, as well as the Pope. #1 announces the "Panhandler of the Year" Award for Pat Robertson. (S-4)

*****

THE FREEMAN Vol. 37 #11-Vol. 38 #1 (On Request from Foundation for Economic Education, Irvington-on-Hudson, NY 10533): A free magazine extolling the virtues of the free market. Lots of little homilies and real-life incidents designed to show how capitalism can cure evil. Worth at least what it costs. #1 includes an amusing juxtaposition of articles on hyperinflation in Brazil and credit card interest rates in the U.S. (D-40t)

*****

FREE NEW YORK Fall 1987 ($10/yr from PO Box 6276, Albany, NY 12206): Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of New York, which I would put somewhere near the middle of the pack for state LP newsletters. Convention coverage, local interest news (new laws, state attacks on private citizens) and some verbiage from the national platform make up this issue. (S-8)

*****

FREETHOUGHT TODAY Vol. 4 #9 ($1 from FFRF, PO Box 750, Madison, WI 53701): The tabloid of the Freedom From Religion Foundation. It's pretty well put together, and features a lot of non-religious inspirational prose. #9 includes part of a speech by the Amazing Randi and a "Nontract" to hand back to pushy Christians. (T-16t)

*****

FREEZINE #1 (Donation from PO Box 1465, Troy, NY 12180): A new, loosely anarchist zine of short essays, emanating from the campus of RPI. As such, many of the critiques here are narrowly focused on campus issues, although some writers attempt to discuss things in a braoder light. In particular, pj considers the educational process and John Schumacher talks about shared authority. A nice start. (HL-20t)

*****

FRIENDS OF THE DRAFT RESISTANCE #1 ($1.50 from Brian Noring, 207 S. Market, Madrid, IA 50156): Don't be fooled by the title; this is mainly a punk zine, though Brian has a strong sense of outrage and so some other underground stuff sneaks in. But the heart of this is record reviews. There are also a few mini-essays on things like animal testing and the IMWU. Positive-sounding punk. (S-30)

*****

THE FRONTIER UNCTION #4-5 ($1 from Frontier Books, 8 Bergen St., Brooklyn, NY 11201): A literary subconscious romp put out by Neal Keating and his friends. These folks write abotu what they think about, which proves to mean a lot of sex, a lot of complaints, and some bowel movements. It's not that bleak, though; some of the poetry here really flows and the stories range from the bizarre to the downright hilarious. I liked the autobio from the prolific porno writer in #4. Adam Quest's poetry in #5 is some of the grittiest around. (D-44r)

*****

FRONT LINE Sept. 1987 ($1 (?) from CAF, 1326 G St. SE, Washington, DC 20003): Newsletter of the Conservative Action Foundation. Mostly they're into petitioning, for things like Tom Hayden's removal from office and George Hansen's removal from prison. Lots of informational literature and so on available. (S-8)

*****

FOUR-ALARM FIRESIGNal 12 (SASE from Elayne Wechsler, PO Box 1609, Madison Sq. Stn., New York, NY 10159): A newsletter exclusively for Firesign Theater fans. That means the main (but not entire) content is news about the FT folks and their past and future products. But there are also Campoon updates, psychic predictions from strange readers, and other hoo-hah here. Includes valuable exegesis of some FT routines, for those of you completely in the dark. (S-5r)

*****

FTA/PHOENIX Vol. 5 #3 (The Usual from SFAV, Box 1772, Victoria, BC V8W 2Y3, CANADA): Clubzine of the Science Fiction Association of Victoria. Unlike most sfanzines, this one publishes short fiction. They also review terrible movies (anyone else remember "Exterminators From the Year 3000"?) and discuss club meetings and camping trips. Cheery, and doubles as a coaster for your teacup. (HL-13r)

*****

FULL DISCLOSURE #14 ($1.50 from PO Box 3275-FF, Ann Arbor, MI 48107): A paper for those of us who are feeling a trifle oppressed by the government -- probably just about everyone. FD covers recent legal decision having a bearing on search and seizure, legal battles against the IRS, police efforts to make radio scanning more difficult, and domestic spying, among other things. #14 includes a long article on the RCMP spying in Quebec. (T-20t)

*****

FUN Vol. 1 #11 - Vol. 2 #4 ($15/yr from 6689 Orchard Lake Rd. #310, W. Bloomfield, MI 48033): A rollicking tabloid dedicated to eyesplitting colors, a sarcastic manner, and no redeeming values. Regular features include Mr. Know-It-All answers and bizarre comics to scare your kids. Somewhere in the past six months or so they've talked about Christmas, the Pope, Elvis, Back to School, Thanksgiving, Halloween, Detroit music, and hemmorhoids. (T-20t)

*****

FUTURE Vol. 4 #2-4 ($2 from PO Box 228, Butte, ND 58723): A journal of miscellaneous good causes and far-out stuff. #2 includes some basics from the Kama Sutra, a couple of articles on the money supply, and notes on toxic wastes and Leonard Peltier. #3 talks about irradiated food, war toys, and the scam of tax reform. Open to all sorts of underheard points of view. (S-14r)

*****

GALACTIC CROSSROADS #7 ($2 from Niles Hokkanen, PO Box 2352, Clarksburg, WV 26301): For players of the mandolin and related instruments. GC features reviews of recorded an live music, notes on tuning and taking care of your mandolin, and most of all, arrangements. These cover standard and esoteric tunings, traditional and new music alike. There's a real love of the instrument projected here, and a lot of fun for those who play. (T-16t)

*****

WHAT IS FREE MEAT?
Technically, FREE MEAT is the term which describes what you become after you've passed out at a party.
AGE STATEMENT REQUIRED
HELP STAMP OUT
FREE MEAT
IN OUR TIME!
ABOUT FREE MEAT
FACTS
To Find out the HOW'S & WHY'S
SEND 35¢ & Stamp or 50¢
Sexy Yellow Fire engine
BOX 177 E. Brunswick, N.J. 08816
CHEESE NO!

GALACTIC DISPATCH #87 (The Usual from Joe Sokola, 5333 Cracker Barrel Cir., Colorado Springs, CO 80917): This is the clubzine of the Science Fiction Association of Colorado Springs, which seems to have been in operation for quite a while before coming to my attention. There's not much meat in the issue at hand: a couple of movie reviews and some locs on previous issues. (D-10r)

*****

THE GATE Vol. 3 #3 ($1.25 from Beth Robbins, PO Box 43518, Richmond Hts., OH 44143): A nice little journal of Forteana: strange things that go bump (or otherwise) in the night. #3 includes some speculations on the strange helicopters seen at cattle mutilation scenes, reports on trance channeling, and reviews of recent books. Also plenty of Fortean notes picked up from other media. (S-16)

*****

GENERIC ALTERNATIVE #7 (50 cents from 3434 Blueridge, Abilene, TX 79605): A zine for skaters, period. Almost all of this is photos of people flying through the air, on skateboards, over frightening plywood ramps. (D-24)

*****

GET STUPID! #6 ($2.75 from PO Box 50, Cambridge, MA 02238): This one is in the old Ace Double style -- I don't know why, because both sides are filled with incomprehensible comics and graphics. But that's part of the charm of GS; it's one of those zines to make your left brain take a vacation so you can groove on the pretty pictures. The production quality is very high; this is art for new mutants. (S-32)

*****

GHOSTBUSTERS Vol. 1 #6 ($1/12 issues from American Forum, PO Box 261, Staten Island, NY 10302): Supposedly for those interested in tracking ghosts, there's really not much here. One or two reprinted articles discuss the work of Psionics Limited in holding seances in NYC. Other than that, it's ads for everything from S&M clubs to voodoo materials. (D-12)

*****

GLASNOST #1 ($2 from Center for Democracy, 358 W. 30th St. #1-A, New York, NY 10001): An english translation of the first private journal in the Soviet Union. To most people, the concept will be more interesting than the contents, which tend to be cautiously-phrased critiques and reports of attempts at organizing and resisting in a different culture. (S-20t)

*****

GLITCH NEWS Vol. III #10 ($7/yr from PO Box 4429, Austin, TX 78765): These folks have gone desktop and dropped their address from the zine; a mixed improvement. This is the gossip zine of the Austin indie scene. #10 wraps up a longish interview with local honcho Dino Lee. (S-8t)

*****

GLOBAL RESTORATION MAGNET Vol. 1 #1 (SASE from Dave Coulter, 206 S. Summit, Villa park, IL 60181): Dave is trying to promote discussion of restoration as an approach to getting a better relationship with the planet going. He defines his topic widely, referring not only to attempts to restore biomes but to attempts to build better human communities. The first issue sets out a prospectus and gives some sources. (S-2)

*****

GOLDMINE Vol. 13 #26 ($1.95 from Krause Publications, 700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990): A tabloid for record collectors. It's full of discographies, hints on what's worth collecting, features on the Greats of the past (from Edith Piaf to Les Paul to the Monkees) and, of course, price lists from those wanting to buy and sell. This issue also has detailed advice on tuning up your turntable so it'll outperform any CD player made. (T-60t)

*****

THE GRASSOMETER Vol. 2 #19 ($12/yr from PO Box 55, Olustee, FL 32072-0056): If bluegrass music interests you, this is the place to go. Their centerpiece is the "only National Bluegrass Hit Song Chart in existence today", but they back it up with plenty of news about the people and the records in the field. (S-16t)

*****

GREED #3 ($2.50 from PO Box 39020, Washington, DC 20016): Well, this is sort of a pfanzine -- that is, they have stories on Sonic Youth and a few other bands and a page of scene report parodies straight out of a well-known Commie front zine -- but there's a lot more here as well. #3 is the "Armageddon" issue, and includes various pieces on nuclear war as well as related topics, such as the revolutionary significance of the Three Stooges. Also features comics and artwork. (S-48t)

*****

GREEN MULTILOGUE Oct. 1987 ($3 from 390 Jones Ave., Toronto, ONT M4J 3G3, CANADA): This comes from some of the nice folks at Action Linkage. It's a very strange multilogue -- a lot of people are talking, but there's precious little dialog and discussion going on. Instead it's mostly reprinted news clippings and letters from hither and thither. Topics: animal research, Movement vs. Party, seals, native peoples. (S-70)

*****

GREYMATTER #3 ($2 from PO Box 93284, Cleveland, OH 44101): A rather diverse collection of writing and art. Some of it is quite funny (like the anti-vegetarian rant) and other parts rather serious (like the interview with a young conservative). Also includes poetry, nice comics interviews with mimes and musicians, and short fiction. Anxiously looking for more contributors to get even more diversity. (S-42)

*****

GRIP #23 ($6.50 from Other Worlds Books, PO Box 1124, Fair Lawn, NJ 07410): A mostly Star Trek fiction zine. The other stuff is rather curious: Miami Vice on Pern, a starship run by cats, a ballad about Samurai Robots, and more. But the Trekfic is definitely the heart of this, and it's well-enough executed, if occasionally too full of in-references and tag-lines. But that, I suppose, is what the genre is all about. (S-72)

*****

GROUND ZERO Fall 1987 (Donation from 16159 Clear Creek Rd. NW, Poulsbo, WA 98370): Well, the Trident base has been in Bangor for ten years now, and Ground Zero has been fighting it every step of the way. This is an issue for stepping back and taking stock; it reminisces on the history of the project and introduces the people involved, while not losing sight of the need to continue preaching nonviolent action against war. (T-12t)

*****

GRUE #6 ($4 from Peggy Nadramia, PO Box 370, Times Sq. Stn., New York, NY 10108): A small magazine of horror and other grue-some fiction. A lot of the best names in the small horror press drop in here: Salmonson, Crouch, Fox and more. Best of #6 is "Stinkers", a vomitous little tale by J. L. Comeau which takes a most unexpected turn on the last page in the best Lovecraftian style. (D-38)

*****

GRUB 66 ($6/4 issues from Dragonfly Farm, Lake St. Peter, ONT, K0L 2K0, CANADA): A sort of apa that is published whenever editor Stu Vickars gets enough stuff. Dragonfly Farm seems to be one of the numerous outposts of hippiedom still in the world, and the discussions here center around things like environmentalism and masculine/feminine issues. Other topics in #66 include cheesemaking and small press reviews. (S-26)

*****

HANDICAP NEWS Vol. 3 #10-Vol. 4 #1 ($10.50/yr from Phyllis Burns, 3060 E. Bridge St. #342, Brighton, CO 80601): A journal of news and tips for the handicapped and those who provide care. Overall it functions as a bit of a support system, both emotionally as an outlet for feelings and practically as a source of information. #10, for example, contains several pages of poetry and information on an accessible wilderness area. (L-7)

*****

HAPPY CAMPER TRIBUNE Oct.-Nov. 1987 ($1 from 930 40th Ave. N, St. Petersburg, NY 33703): A pfanzine of mainly dot-matrix concert reviews, everything from Bowie to Jesus and Mary Chain to the Dead Milkmen. There's also a box full of poetry and a few personal ads to liven things up. (S-8)

*****

HARVEST, Samhain-Winter 1987 ($10/yr from PO Box 228, S. Framingham, MA 01701): A long-running Pagan zine with a rather laid-back feel to it. They divide their space about equally between current events, opinions, and how-to articles. The Samhain issue includes a lot of correspondence on comics, humor, sexism, and the state of the pagan world. Winter presents articles on being gay or being a shopkeeper and remaining pagan. (S-32)

*****

HAWAIIAN PUNCH #5 (75 cents (?) from Box 36, 21 Washington Place (21 Annex), New York, NY 10003): "NYU's Music Magazine", I don't know if this is an "official" activity or what, but it's certainly eclectic. Eight or ten writers just review whatever they want to, and it all gets printed without editorial comment. So you find everything from Springsteen and Mellencamp to Carmaig de Forest and Marianne Faithfull here. Mostly well-known acts; not much indie music. (HL-20)

*****

HEARTSONG REVIEW #3 ($4 from PO Box 1084, Cottage Grove, OR 97424): I'm always pleased when someone puts out a good specialized review zine. This is a nice example -- eveyrthing you wanted to know about New Age music. The reviews are incredibly detailed, with notes on suggested uses, instrumentation, and extensive cross-referencing and indexing. #3 also contains a short interview and some general news. Definitely the "Resource Guide" the masthead proclaims. (S-56t)

*****

THE HEATHEN SCIENCE MONITOR Nov./Dec. 1987 (SASE from PO Box 3131, Traffic Stn., Minneapolis, MN 55403): A sheet of opinions, lies and occasional news, mainly in a blackly humorous vein. The November issue pokes fun at Judge "Doper" Ginsburg and shares some of Joe Hoppe's reminiscences. (L-2)

*****

HERMAN HANKS, TIME TRAVELER #6 (75 cents from Ian Shires, 17914 N. Inlet Dr., Strongsville, OH 44136): The last episode of a continuing minicomic, tying up all the loose ends in this time travel epic and of course constructing a neat little loop of time. Of course, it won't make much sense if you haven't read the previous issues, and the art isn't much to look at, but it's sort of snidely amusing anyhow. (M-16)

*****

HEY DADDYO #8 ($1 from PO Box 587, Willoughby, OH 44094): A literary zine that goes in for the sort of nastiness that floats to the top in all of us from time to time. Editor Cheese Borger doesn't waste too much time on looking pro (this is more like the slapdash pfanzine type of layout). Instead he prints deeply disturbing contributions from Larry Oberc and Dean Tetrault and Edward Mycue and other leading lights of the underground. "Intense", it says on the cover, and it's right. (S-16)

*****

HIGH FRONTIER NEWSWATCH Vol. IV #12 ($25/yr from 1010 Vermont Ave. NW #1000, Washington, DC 20005): A rabidly pro-SDI newsletter that wants us to put up a system Right Now to stop those Russkies in their tracks. Lots of stuff here on how the US armed forces are at a paralyzing disadvantage, plus arguments that SDI opponents don't know what they're talking about. (S-8t)

*****

HIGH SCHOOL IS A WASTELAND #4 (50 cents from Glen Hirabayashi, 9325 Garrison Way, Eden Prairie, MN 55344): A combination of political polemic, punk rock, and pretty bad computer layouts. Glen is trying hard, but hampered by lack of a scene and experience. Still, he gets interviews with BFD and Crib Death into this issue, and is actively working to improve his zine, so stay tuned for the future. (S-12)

*****

HI-TECH TERROR #27-28 ($6/12 issues from Craig Ledbetter, PO Box 5367, Kingwood, TX 77325): A monthly or so rundown on what's been on Craig's VCR. In most cases the answer is, nothing the average accountant would want to see. HTT goes in for flicks like Cannibal Hookers or Commando Squad, scraping the barrel of made-for-video movies. (S-4)

*****

HOLIER THAN THOU #26 ($5 or The Usual from Marty Cantor, 11565 Archwood St., North Hollywood, CA 91606-1703): A memorial sfanzine for the late Terry Carr. In addition to reprinting a short piece of Terry's, HTT contains some other fannish reprints that connect with his career, a biography by David Bratman, and some appreciations by fellow fen. This item will be mostly of interest to other members of the fannish family; those on the outside should probably wait for the next regular issue of HTT. (S-32)

*****

THE HOLISTIC HEALTH REVIEW Vol. 2 #3 (Donation from Overman Publishing, PO Box 10312, Minneapolis, MN 55458): A newsletter that's trying to bring local alternative health practitioners into contact with prospective clients. Besides various ads, most of the contents here are on a very elementary level: basic primers on iridology, chiropractic, Rolfing and so on. (S-22t)

*****

HOLLYWOOD BOOK & POSTER CO. NEWS Dec. 1987 ($1 (?) from 1708 N. Las Palmas, Hollywood, CA 90028): Well, if you sold movie stuff in Hollywood, what would you be interested in? In the December ish it's mostly music, including interviews with Wendy O. Williams and the fun guys from Mighty Sphincter. But pro wrestling and Hollywood personalities creep in around the edges. (D-16r)

*****

A HOUSE UNITED AGAINST ITSELF Vol. 4 #6 (75 cents from PO Box 4431, Ann Arbor, MI 48106): This seems to have orbited out of the POPREAL constellation and into its own starhood lately. It's a mishmash of New Age, SubGenial, and Discordian-sounding religious matter, worshipping everyone from Tammy Faye to Elvis to Bob, and spewing out incomprehensible scriptures. Fun, but the type is incredibly hard to read. (D-12r)

*****

HUDSON VALLEY GREEN TIMES Holidays 1987 ($10/yr from PO Box 208, Red Hook, NY 12571): The local environmentalist group. The Holidays issue is mostly devoted to garbage, and why we need recycling instead of the incinerators that everyone around here wants to build. I think they're right, and I'll be happy to separate my trash -- but who gets the system running? (T-16t)

*****

HYPERTENSION #19 (NZ$2.50 from Lana Brown, PO Box 4138, Wanganui, NEW ZEALAND): A sfanzine dedicated to all the obscure (and not so obscure) little media fandoms out there. Lan publicizes conventions, zines and books dedicated to Star Trek (new and old) the Prisoner, Dr. Who, Blake's Seven, Harrison Ford, Simon and Simon, and more. An excellent source of admittedly specialized news. (D-56r)

*****

IAN #4 ($1.50 from Ian Christe, PO Box 5, Columbus, IN 47202): An enthusiastic pfanzine dedicated to loud, speedy, hardcore, heavy-metal killer music. Most of the zine is devoted to short interviews and phone calls: Kublai Khan, Doomwatch, Nuclear Assault, Hirax and more in this issue. Ian also prints a dozen or so record reviews and a great gossip column with all sorts of rumors about bands you've probably never heard of. (D-32r)

*****

ICE RIVER NEWSLETTER Vol. 3 #5/6 ($1.50 from Ice River, Inc., 953 N. Gale, Union, OR 97883): This is a combination small-press reviewzine and market for short essays and poetry. It keeps the IR folks going between issues of the magazine, and is interesting in its own right. Misha's fanzine reviews are always nice, and in #5/6 there's a nice piece by Richard Kostelanetz about the possibilities for audiotape. (S-16)

*****

I COVER THE WAR June-Sept. 1987 ($1 (?) from PO Box 360553, Birmingham, AL 35236): A monthly cultural guide. What I like about it is that there's something new every month: in one ish it's local bookstores, in another an Alex Chilton interview. Every time around there's an extensive club listing that's done right -- with notes on the acts, and not just a list of names -- and a guide to forthcoming video releases which might interest those out of the area. (S-24t)

*****

INFO JOURNAL 53 ($3 from PO Box 367, Arlington, VA 22210-0367): The magazine of the International Fortean Organization, a bunch of folks interested in the strange and wonderful things that don't fit into established paradigms. #53 has a debunking article on Sasquatch sightings, some news on the alchemical medallion of Leopold I (allegedly part gold, part silver), and an article on long radio echoes. Well documented and only slightly off the beam. (S-48)

*****

INSIDE JOKE #56-57 ($1 from Elayne Wechsler, PO Box 1609, Madison Sq. Stn., New York, NY 10159): Elayne is holding the price at a buck per even though her printing costs are skyrocketing; donations are welcome and small ads are being accepted. I hope she finds some good way to keep this "Newsletter of Comedy and Creativity" afloat; it's been on my 'A' list for a long time. Every issue features Zen advice, funny short stories, bizarre poems, Anni Ackner, a rip-rollicking letter column, strange art, media thoughts, and much more. For those of you dying to know why I write mostly reviews, #57 includes a short story by moi. (S-32r)

*****

THE INSIDER GUN NEWS Vol. 1 #11-Vol. 2 #1 ($50/yr from The Gunpress Publishing Co., 443 Springvale Rd., Great Falls, VA 22066): A gossip and news sheet for the gun industry. NRA and legislative doings and new technologies are always covered. #11 includes a fascinating bit on how the Army is counting on rate of fire rather than marksmanship for future infantry weapons. #12 breaks the news of plastic ammo (to go with plastic guns?). (S-4t)

*****

THE INSOMNIAC #10 ($10/yr from Lynne Parcells, 1310 SUssex St., Portage, MI 49081): A "Journal of Opinion and the Arts" put out by a bunch of MENSA members, apparently without the endorsement of the MENSA hierarchy. There's some politicking here, but mostly it's autobiography and bad jokes and political musings and essays on justice and what-not. Suitable, as the title implies, for passing time late at night. (HL-48t)

*****

INSTAURATION Vol. 13 #2 ($3.75 from Howard Allen, PO Box 76, Cape Canaveral, FL 32920): A slick magazine that argues that there is a vanishing majority of Northern European stock in this country that's responsible for its greatness. They tend to either look back to heroes from the past or forward to dire consequences of demographics. Lots of contemporary bits of news that fit in with their ideas about the different cultures of different ethnic groups. They certainly find a lot to assemble into the pattern. (S-36t)

*****

INSTEAD OF A MAGAZINE #43 ($6.50/4 issues from Lysander Spooner Society, PO Box 433, Willimantic, CT 06226): A great little anarchist zine that concentrates on discussions rather than polemics. There's a loose theme for every issue, but friends are always writing in with other odds and ends. #43 concentrates on clothing, fashion and appearance. (D-36r)

*****

THE INTERNATIONAL AMERICAN SUNBEAM Vol. 1 #1 (75 cents from PO Box 300, Seligman, MO 65745): A new incarnation of AMERICAN SUNBEAM magazine, still jam-packed with obscuire conspiracy theory. There's a particularly baroque Kennedy assassination story in this one, as well as looks at KAL 007 and the real cause of cancer. Some ravings about Zionist control of the country, but otherwise not too spiteful. Interestingly enough, I recognize the names of a couple of prominent anarchist and libertarian activists as authors here. (T-8).

*****

INTERNATIONAL PRIMATE PROTECTION LEAGUE NEWSLETTER Vol. 14 #3 ($10/yr from PO Box 766, SUmterville, SC 29484): The only animal rights organization I know with a truly international scope, though I'm sure there are others. IPPL fights mainly against the international trade in primates of all types, whether for research, zoos, or pets. They've been instrumental in stopping several shady deals and pressuring governments to enforce export regulations. The newsletter is especially informative and lists plenty of things one can do to help -- sort of like an Amnesty International analog. (S-24t)

*****

IN THE MAIL ($1 (?) from Wordless Press, PO Box 79114, Lakewood, OH 44107): A mail-art collection, with a set of cryptic figures and minimal text from an international cast. Contributions are solicited, with the March theme being "confinement". (D16)

*****

I REMEMBER DOKSTOK ('87) ($1 or The Usual from Rev. Nanzi Regalia, PO Box 70829, New Orleans, LA 70173): Available only to card-carrying SubGenii, this is a report on one of the major recent gatherings of the clan. Nanzi gives us the convention in a series of collages with a few words, and manages to point up the sexism of the Church without losing her sense of humor. For the hard core only. (S-10)

*****

IT'S #3 ($2 from Sheila Gibson, 20 Shady Lane, Nashua, NH 03062): This is for the Monty Python enthusiast, of which the editor (who goes by the name of The Easel) is one. There's news on what the Pythonites are up to these days, trivia questions, reviews of obscure past accomplishments, and (as one might expect) general silliness. There's also some original cartooning and a plea for like-minded individuals to get in touch. (S-29)

*****

IT'S ONLY A MOVIE Vol. 2 #10-Vol 3 #1 ($1.50 from Michael Flores, 54 W. Randolph St. #606-E2, Chicago, IL 60601): I notice they're finally selling back issues at two bucks a pop, so I guess I can get a bit more specific about contents. This is put out by the Psychotronic Film Society, a bunch of cheerful people who find women in prison films to be vastly superior to CITIZEN KANE. Offbeat music, comics, and other undercultures also come in for review. #10 features a long interview with Mamie Van Doren, and in #11 they talk to Joe-Bob Briggs. (D-20r)

*****

JAB #3 (25 cents from The Farm, PO Box 85833, Seattle, WA 98145): A comic without a plot. The way it works is that each artist draws a page that continues the story in some direction or other and then passes it on. This sort of round-robin produces some intriguing underground art, but not much else. In this case, the result is "Freshly Mown Lawn Funnies". (HL-8)

*****

JACK ANDERSON CONFIDENTIAL Vol. 1 #8 ($39/yr from Subscriber Service Dept., PO Box 25, Pleasanton, CA 94566): I'm beginning to think that Anderson is some sort of corporation; he's always talking somewhere or writing something. In this newsletter he distributes truth and rumors, one presumes in advance of their appearance in his publication. Is it my imagination, or does he drift further right all the time? Amusing but not earthshaking. (S-8)

*****

JAG Vol. 26 #1-2 (On Request from R.S. Jaggard, MD, 10 E. Charles, Oelwein, IA 50662): Dr. Jaggard is dedicated to "Individual Moral Responsibility and the Free Enterprise System" and he publishes these broadsides to encourage others in the same stance. #1 gives some details on the Association of American Physicians and Surgeons, an individualist alternative to the AMA. #2 rails against the injustices of the IRS. (L-1)

*****

THE JAMES WHITE REVIEW Vol. 5 #1 ($10/yr from PO Box 3356, Traffic Stn., Minneapolis, MN 55403): "A Gay Men's Literary Journal", this one is split about evenly between fiction and poetry. As one would expect, they have an explicit sexual orientation about them (though no explicit sex) that might turn a few readers off. As stories exploring human relationships, though, many are quite good, and I find myself reading them with care and appreciation. (T-16t)

*****

JERSEY BEAT #32 ($1 from Jim Testa, 418 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, NJ 07087): #32 seems to have been overrun by record reviews; I guess that's happening to a lot of us lately. In the interstices Jim crams interviews with Speed the Plough and Yung Wu, as well as some photos. Extras include "Ask the Anarchist" and the ten best Cosloy ad slogans. (S-30r)

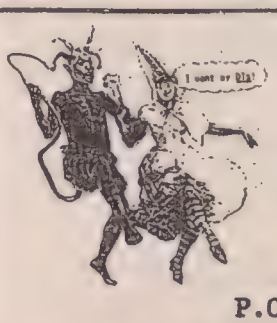
*****

JET LAG #79-80 ($1.25 from 8419 Halls Ferry Rd., St. Louis, MO 63147): This long-running pfanzine has recently gone bimonthly but the format hasn't changed. JL is still a mass of eclectic reviews and interviews, wandering all over the indie music scene and occasionally stepping into major-label land. #79 includes a bunch of short interviews picked up at the New Music Seminar. Believe it or not, the best part of #80 is the massive Orange Soda Taste Test -- closely followed by the Alex Chilton interview. (S-40r)

*****

JEWISH VEGETARIANS OF NORTH AMERICA NEWSLETTER ($20/yr from Vegetarians, PO Box 1463, Baltimore, MD 21203): Just what the name says. Much of this is devoted to arguing that vegetarianism is compatible with Judaism, rather than forbidden or misguided. There's also a recipe for ersatz chicken soup and lots of local contact addresses. (S-16)

*****



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THE JOURNAL OF BORDERLAND RESEARCH Vol. XLIII #6 ($20/yr from PO Box 429, Garberville, CA 95440-0429): A place where strange scientific theories can be published and considered. Hot topics include anything that combines the spiritual with the physical, the perception of color, new energies, and bio-electro-magnetic effects. This doesn't tie into orthodox science very well, and I'm highly skeptical, but people I know think of this as a high-class entry in the field. (S-36)

*****

JOURNAL OF THE INSTITUTE OF SCIENTIFIC SANTA CLAUSISM Vol. MCXQI #6 ($2.50/4 issues from Daniel Meyer, PO Box 70829, New Orleans, LA 70172): These folks are dedicated to tracking down the elusive Claus wherever he might hide, and to network sightings and other Forteana relating to his activities. In #6 consideration is given to the Hollow Earth theory and the competing idea that Claus drives a tow truck in Louisiana on the off season. (S-4)

*****

JOURNAL OF MIND POLLUTION (The Usual from Richard Dengrove, 7524 Republic Ct. #202, ALexandria, VA 22306): Richard is a skeptic and a SF fan. He writes about things like the New Age and the Harmonic Convergence, but mainly to debunk them. This issue also features a reassessment of Jimmy Carter and a dozen or so pages of fanzine reviews from Irvin Koch. Most of these are sfanzines that you won't find in FF. (S-23)

*****

JUST FOR LAUGHS Oct. 1987 ($1 (?) from 22 Miller Ave., Mill Valley, CA 94941): A tabloid for the comedy industry. It's not necessarily funny. Rather, this is a place for all those zillions of comedy clubs to advertise, and for the comics who play them to strut their wares in hopes of being hired. Probably worth it only for those in the business. (T-20t)

*****

KALLISTI KOMIKS #10 ($1 from PO Box 19566, Cincinatti, OH 45219): A zine with Discordian and SubGenius roots that manages to trend the usual silliness of those fields (though there's still silliness for those who want it). The center is a horribly indulgent Hunter Thompson ripoff serial, but as I've done the same myself I'm hardly one to complain. There are also comics, other fiction, notes on reality, book reviews, and general confusion. (D-36t)

*****

THE KANSAS INTELLIGENCER Vol. 1 #11-Vol. 2 #1 ($12/yr from R.W. Clack, 5524 Anderson Ave., Manhattan, KS 66502): "A monthly polemic," this one is a conservative broadside that doesn't (quite) cross the line into nuttiness. #11 includes some ruminations on the stock market crash and a reconstructed conversation in the Kremlin revealing Soviet strategy for world domination. #12 discusses the INF treaty and gets generally cranky about the ozone layer, the ACLU, and the Kansas Department of Highways. #1 considers further Societ intentions and passes by the deficit. (L-2)

*****

KICK IT OVER #20 ($2 froom PO Box 5811, Stn. A, Toronto, ONT M5W 1P2, CANADA): A journal of anarchy that struggles along despite debt and a resolute commitment to collective operation -- and produces a damned good paper to boot. The highlight of #20 is probably the insert on the ecology debate, with a couple of searching critiques of Deep Ecology. Also included are articles on coping with grief, anarchist history, and "Dance as a Feminist Project". (T-32t)

*****

KINDRED VOICES Autumn 1987 (Donation from 1337 6th Ave., Des Moines, IA 50314): I'm not 100% sure what all the Kindred Community is or does, but this issue focuses on their efforts to help shelter the homeless in Des Moines. As with many other communities, the powers that be are trying too drive shelters out of business and get the homeless out of town. But the concerned helping folks at KC aren't about to allow that. Other articles discuss nuclear resistance, boondoggling government, free speech, and sundry liberal causes. (S-12t)

*****

KING COTTON #5 (25 cents & a stamp from Eric Mayer, 1771 Ridge Rd. E, Rochester, NY 14622): A minicomic featuring some characters that Eric started drawing in school. They escaped from the page and have been having wildly self-referential adventures ever since. (M-8)

*****

KOBWEBS ON THE KEYBOARD 3 (The Usual (inc. foreign stamps) from Glen Crawford, PO Box 1, Avoca Beach, 2260 NSW, AUSTRALIA): An unassuming sfannish perzine. Glen discusses his life as if people were interested, and succeeds in making them so. In #3 he talks about demolishing and picking over a small house before a larger one is built in its place, something that sounds like a lot of fun. Also features letters from round the world and rotten vacation reports. (S-12)

*****

KULTCHA #63-72 ($1/5 issues from Kerry Thornley, PO Box 5498, Atlanta, GA 30307): Send a buck, get a package of mixed stuff including some of this zine. KULTCHA is a series of broadsides made up of quotes from various countercultural figures and occasionally (for spice, I guess) their opposition. Recent issues have featured Ferrer, A.S. Neill and Hunter Thompson. (S-1)

*****

LA LANGOUSTE #8 (2 francs from Model-Peltex, 3 Rue des couples, 67000 Strasbourg, FRANCE): A couple of IRCs or a trade wouldn't hurt if you can't get francs where you are. This is sort of a miniature European FACTSHEET FIVE, with a dozen or two zine reviews, music reviews, mail-art show announcements, and more. The graphics are very nice and there's an interview with someone from Rock Express. (A4-4r)

*****

THE LAME MONKEY MANIFESTO Vol. 1 #6-7 ($1 from PO Box 8763, Knoxville, TN 37996-4800): This is a better than average college paper, probably because it's put out by folks who have no official status beyond "student". A lot of the jokes are specific to the University of Tennessee (or else there's very little humor here at all) but ther are enough strange short stories and cartoons to keep even an outsider chuckling. #7 includes their independent fall class evaluations, which should be an inspiration to collegiate publishers everywhere. (T-12)

*****

LATE KNOCKING Vol. III #1-2 ($3 from Harford Poetry Society, PO Box 336, Forest Hill, MD 21050): A mix of poetry, rather short stories, and artwork. The emphasis is on craftsmanship and voice rather than experimentalism; few of these works stray further from the mainstream than light fantasy. There are a number of familiar names including Lifshin, Niditch, and Mycue. The production quality is high, marred only by the spotty use of dot-matrix print for captions. (D-52t)

*****

LCD #5 (Donation from WFMU, Upsala College, East Orange, NJ 07019): One of the best radio program guides around -- perhaps because FMU is one of the best stations. The best part is that it's about the industry rather than the station: a look back at the origins of freeform radio, taping taxes, and living without TV feature prominently in this issue. Fantastic graphics too. (S-36)

*****

THE LETTER EXCHANGE #13 ($4 from PO Box 6218, Albany, CA 94706): A service for people who write letters. For a nominal fee, you can have your advertisement listed here and be deluged by replies from interesting people -- some of my own correspondents stemmed from just this source. Also features many letters and quips on the nearly-lost art of letter writing. An institution of our network, and well worth looking into if you write letters at all. (D-40)

*****

LETTER TO THE CHURCHES FROM EL SALVADOR #150 ($15/yr from PO Box 351, San Antonio, TX 78291): Remember El Salvador? Seems like not many people do these days. This is a biweekly pastoral letter that keeps the bleak conditions there in front of whoever will listen. Faith may not in this case move mountains, but it can at least remind us of the crappy conditions some people live in. (S-14)

*****

LGLC NEWSLETTER Dec. 1987 ($1 from 1800 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94102): Free Forum Books, which serves as Libertarians for Gay and Lesbian Concerns headquarters, got visited by the cops in October. They said they were looking for a part-time employee who they had a warrant for, but took the time to turn the place over and steal a lot of papers, files, audio and videotapes without a proper warrant. So the store is in need of donations to get a good lawyer, and enable them to continue producing this newsletter. The December ish also finds room to discuss the outrageous right-wing tactics being employed on this year's Libertarian presidential campaign. (S-10t)

*****

LIANA Vol. 2 #1/2 ($20/yr from Terra International, PO Box 18391, Washington, DC 20036): News from a group dedicated to saving tropical ecosystems (primarily rainforests) around the world from development. Their primary focus seems to be on international politics. (S-8)

*****

LIBERTARIAN AGENDA Vol. 1 #4 ($20/yr from LROC, 1200 Hamilton Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94301): I'm not entirely sure what is going on here, but this comes from the "Libertarian Republican Organizing Committee". Judging from the careful analysis of the Republican candidates, the words on the "decline of the Libertarian Party", and the lack of any mention of Ron Paul, it looks like this is for a Libertarian takeover of the Republicans rather than the other way around. Good luck. (S-16t)

*****

LIBERTARIAN FAMILIST Vol. 6 #6 (On Request from 5324 Sun Valley Dr., El Paso, TX 79924): #6 is almost entirely reprints from the HUMANE STUDIES REVIEW, plus a few ads, which makes it tough to get at the LF stand. Oh, there's still the usual statement plugging "family oriented Children's Rights", but somehow it doesn't come across well in the general wash of liberalism. (S-8t)

*****

LIBERTARIAN WORKERS BULLETIN Vol. 9 #1 ($4 from Mutual Aid, PO Box 20, Parkville 3052, Melbourne, Victoria, AUSTRALIA): Being outside the states, these folks adhere to the older meaning of "libertarian" -- which is to say, anarchist. Perhaps for the same reason, they also have a more international outlook than most anarchist periodicals: articles cover the movement in Greece, Argentina, Korea and elsewhere. Lots of contacts and magazines listed, and Australian anarchism itself seems to be relatively healthy. There's too many organizing articles and not enough theoretical ones for my taste, but perhaps that's what we need now. (T-32r)

*****

LIBERTY REPORT Jan. 1988 (On Request from 2020 Tate Springs Rd., Lynchburg, VA 24501): This is the newspaper of the Moral Majority. It's interesting to note that they have basically the same advertisers as the WEEKLY WORLD NEWS. (T-32t)

*****

LIBSIG Sept. 1987 ($1 (?) from Jay C. Wood, PO Box 142, Port Hueneme, CA 93041): Another MENSA publication, this one for the Libertarian Special Interest Group. Jay runs it pretty much like an apa, printing excerpts from members' letters interspersed with his own commentary. There are a few people interested in debating the general Libertarian worldview, and others interested in passionately supporting it. (D-24)

*****

LIFE OF CRIME #3 (22-cent stamp from Elissa Rashkin, PO Box 20375, New York, NY 10025): A zine of variety that revolves loosely around the criminality of everyday life. #3 focuses on political prisoners in the USA, but also finds room for poetry (including one strong piece from Elayne Wechsler) and art and a couple of fanzine reviews. Consciousness-raising combined with frivolity and fun. (D-16r)

*****

LIL' DEMON REVIEW Oct.-Nov. 1987 (50 cents (?) from 5680 Tracy Dr., Mableton, GA 30059): A small digest from the semi-pro horror-writing community. Most of this is reviews and commentary on stories published elsewhere. Editor Randy Chandler also includes some of his own diatribes on things like feminism and cult movies. (D-12)

*****

LITERARY MARKETS #36-37 ($12/yr from Bill Marles, PO Drawer 1310, Pt. ROberts, WA 98281-1310): The title pretty much tells the story. Bill keeps track of all the little markets out there, noting who's buying and who's not, who's running contests and who has come to their senses and quit publishing. He also publishes short poetry on the subject of writing. (S-6)

*****

THE LITTLE RHINO GAZETTE #9 ($2 from PO Box 14139, Arlington, TX 76094-1139): A zine that dabbles in most areas of the underground: records, tapes, zines and comics are all reviewed. They also print short stories and poetry and generally have a good time. #9 includes a neat interview with Sarah and Carrie, cartoonists extraordinaire, whose work you've seen here and elsewhere, and one with Beat Happening, an elusive band from the Northwest. (HL-36r)

*****

LITTLE SKULL'S BAY-BEE (15 cents & a stamp from 833 1/3 N. Formosa, Hollywood, CA 90046): The latest from Carah Productions, this one is to bridge the gaps between issues of FOR YOUR SKULL. Contains teeny-tiny record reviews and the usual nifty doom-and-gloom sardonic punk comics. I particularly like the revealing one about the artist's family. (M-8)

*****

LIVELY ARTS #10 ($1 from PO Box 4906, San Diego, CA 92104): The second anniversary issue of this pfanzine, and quite a value. Printed on about seventy-eleven colors of paper, LA focuses in on some of the tip of the iceberg personalities, those who are known outside of the underground: Big Daddy Roth and Peter Tosh and Captain Sensible, for example. Mainly interviews and comics. (D-40r)

*****

LIVING FREE #42 ($1.50 from Jim Stumm, PO Box 29, Hiler Branch, Buffalo, NY 14223): News and notes on how to live quietly, simply, and out of the eye of the government. Jim's correspondents discuss everything from moving to space to living in a truck on the interstate. There's also occasional gardening and mechanical self-reliance advice as well as archival reprints from the early days of vonu. (S-8r)

*****

LIVING SICKNESS #2 ($2 from Mike Kittilstad, 1344 Cathy Way, Hayward, CA 94545): This one is aimed at the garage-band set and others who can't let go of the Sixties. Rather than reviewing current music in the vein they reach back and reprint aging stories about bands with strange names and moptops or crewcuts. #2 also features a bunch of stuff about Ed Roth's monsters and assorted similar ripoffs. (S-20)

*****

THE LIVING SPHERE #5 ($7.77 from Borderland Sciences Research Foundation, PO Box 429, Garberville, CA 95440-0429): A collection of esoteric lore and reprints from the files of the BSRF, prompting speculations in all directions. Much of #5 is devoted to African religions, with run downs on some major deities, confessions of a wizard, and notes on the lost language of Lemuria. There's also a few bits of Crowleyana and some bits on San Pedro cactus. (S-72)

*****

THE LLEWELLYN NEW TIMES #876-881 ($1 from PO Box 64383, St. Paul, MN 55164-0383): This is essentially a monthly book catalog from the nation's oldest publisher of New Age books, dressed up with the occasional feature -- always with a book tie-in. It also offers the strangest bunch of ads you're ver likely to find. Current (#881) offerings concentrate on the founding of a new magickal order in the US, the latest trends in astrology, and a crystals/chakra crossover. (S-80t)

*****

LOAFING THE DONKEY #10 ($1.25 from Peter Mantis, PO Box 20546, Ferndale, MI 48220-1318): Alternative cinema and alternative music -- two sorts of lowlife scum activities rolled into one. (New readers may have to be informed that L.S. is not a negative term around here). #10 includes stories on Smoldering Loins, Stranglers, and Destination Moon, as well as dream excerpts and zine reviews. (D-24)

*****

THE LOG CABIN #91-92 ($1 from Louisa Poulin, HC 38 Box 1178, Winchester, VA 22601): A zine put out by a bunch of Mensans interested in country living and survival -- even in the city. Getting "back to the land" is the watchword, and various members write in with their own growing hints, observations, and just chit-chat. The pot-bellied stove of the zine world. (D-16r)

*****

LOOKOUT! #29 ($1 from Lawrence Livermore, PO Box 1000, Laytonville, CA 95454): Ever notice that most Federal penitentiaries have POB 1000 as an address? Well, that doesn't really matter, because reading LOOKOUT is a lot more fun than

being in the slammer. Lawrence lives in pot country, and his observations on drugs and guns and the war between the government and the growers are always interesting. There's also local and national political commentary, music reviews, interesting letters, and fun suggestions on what to do with major political figures. Rebellious glee. (S-16t)

*****

LOSING FAITH #4 ($1 from PO Box 10533, Minneapolis, MN 55458): An arts magazine dedicated to starting discussions -- by flying in the face of our taboos. So it is that in #4 they've started a column of famous vomit stories ("Losing Lunch"). Meanwhile, the psychosexual artwork is as heavy as ever, mixing religious, political and scatalogical imagery with each other without end. Disturbing. (HL-20)

*****

LOWLIFE #12 ($2 from Glen Thrasher, 1095 Blueridge Ave. #2, Atlanta, GA 30306): From the depths of Atlanta's "scene" comes this iconoclastic little number, slagging off everyone who's busy posing instead of living. Perhaps the central point is the record reviews, but they're flanked on the one side by experimental stories and the other by strange interviews -- underground musician Bruce Hampton, strange artist E.K. Huckaby (Glen doesn't waste space on the critical darlings). There's a lot here to provoke thought, and a lot to snarl at. (S-60r)

*****

MAGIC BULLET 3:6 (SASE from 169 W. Huntingdon St., Philadelphia, PA 19133): A small and colorful zine of short stories, art, poetry and confusion. Surrealism isn't quite what's going on here -- the words and sentences make sense, but sometimes the thoughts do not. Very nicely put together, though, and fun to read. (HL-16t)

*****

MAGNET SCHOOL #7 ($1 CASH & Age Statement from PO Box 3222, Traffic Stn., Minneapolis, MN 55403): Editor Lisa LaBia coined the term "sexographic" for the non-sexist, non-violent, arousing material she likes to cover -- and that covers a lot of range. In #7 feminist sex film maker Candida Royalle talks about making good arousing movies, Shane Williams discusses sex in prison, Luna Ticks talks about censorship, the editor recalls her early experiences with Judy Blume's books, and James Lindley explores S&M in the comics. Also letters, photos, book reviews, and poetry. (S-18)

*****

THE MAINEIAC EXPRESS #1 ($3.45 from 19 Mason St., Brunswick, ME 04011): An incredibly silly newspaper. Just on the first page you can find "Everyone in New Hampshire Dies: Authorities Looking for Answers" "Norther Maine Secedes!" and "Mainer Attempts Transatlantic Swim". Hundreds of satirical stories, ads, photos, television schedules, quips, filler items, and more -- a dense collection of humor. Most of it even makes sense to Flatlanders. (T-40t)

*****

THE MARIJUANA REPORT Vol. 6 #2 ($15/yr from OMI, PO Box 8698, Portland, OR 97207): The newspaper of the Oregon Marijuana Initiative -- you know, those folks who want to make growing pot in your own yard for personal use legal. Most of this is legal news, on how to get busted and what to do, heavily supplemented with hydroponics ads. (T-16t)

*****

MASSACHUSETTS LIBERTY Vol. XIII #3 ($12/yr from PO Box 2610, Boston, MA 02208): Another Libertarian Party publication, without flashy graphics but with better political coverage than most. This is the first place I read any details of the recent NatCom meeting, for example. #3 also contains an interesting speculation on how to retire government subsidies ethically. (S-8)

*****

THE MATCH #82 ($2 from Fred Woodowrth, PO Box 3488, Tucson, AZ 85722): A mammoth hardline anarchist publication which will infuriate and inform those in the movement as well as those without. With #82 there seems to be a new emphasis on animal rights, but there are also the same things we've gotten to know and love: a blistering survey of the small press, crankt letters, articles blasting cops and religion, and lots more. Hard-core and unyielding, and always worth reading. And there's no better value for the price. (S-100t)

*****

MAYDAY #2-3 (Donation from Denise Unora, 1459 W. Foster, Chicago, IL 60640): "A Continental Newsletter for the Anarchist Movement", this is an outgrowth of the annual gatherings we've been having. It's an unedited forum of news from various groups around the country, and a useful way to find out what's going on. The emphasis right now is on events and meetings; perhaps theory and discussion will come later, or in another forum. #3 includes some proposals for a working statement of anarchist principles to rally around. (HL-12r)

*****

MEMO TO MAILERS Vol. 22 #10-12 (On Request from PO Box 999, Springfield, VA 22150-0999): The Postal Service's way of keeping in touch with their business customers. Most of the articles are directed at big-time concerns, but there are occasional bits of interest to anyone with a bulk mail or second-class permit, plus news tidbits on new and revised rates and services. #12 includes ordering info for the Domestic Mail Manual and other bibles of the USPS. (S-8t)

*****

MENDOCINO COMMENTARY #315 ($15/yr from PO Box 1222, Fort Bragg, CA 95437): Yes, it's from Mendocino County, and it's got articles on baking good bread and peace and ecology and your rights as a worker and that sort of good stuff. But there doesn't seem to be a lot of substance here for the amount of ads. On the other hand, non-commercial classifieds run for free until they work. (T-16t)

*****

MEN TALK Vol.. 11 #8 ($2 from The Men's Center, 3255 S. Hennepin Ave. #45, Minneapolis, MN 55408): A lot of men these days are wondering where the growth of feminism has left them. Or they're dealing with difficult separations, or with AIDS, or with other tough issues. MT is a resource for these men, particularly in and around the Twin Cities, where they list all sorts of resources, activities, and support groups. But lately there have been more articles in addition to the newsletter stuff; this might be the start of a national readership. (S-28t)

*****

MERRY ELVIS (? from Mike Froerer, 30,900 Hasley Cyn. #33, Saugus, CA 91384): An alternate-reality Christmas card that was published in a limited edition and probably isn't available, but you can ask Mike when you send him a buck for his T-shirt catalog. The card tells the story of little Elvis, who grew up to be fat and hearty and dispense gifts between songs. (HL-12)

*****

METAL AMERICA Premiere Issue ($1.95 from 901 Meriden-Waturbury Tpke., Southington, CT 06479): A new slick heavy metal zine with a simple formula: interviews, record reviews, and concert photography, usually concentrating on some sweaty hunk. There are some big and moderately so names here (Foghat, Ace Frehley), but most of the coverage is of newer metal bands (Autograph, Victory, Primal Scream). (S-40t)

*****

METAL MELTDOWN #2 ($1.25 from PO Box 324, Severna Park, MD 21146): A new metal pfanzine that is trying to rapidly move into national distribution -- hope they don't overreach themselves. #2 has got a whole mess of interviews with folks in leather and chains: Dark Angel, Death Angel, Wild Dogs, Nuclear Assault and more. Also record reviews, guitar notes and a crossword puzzle. If metal's your genre, this may be your zine. (S-40)

*****

META-SCOOP Vol. 4 #11/12 ($10/yr from 1004 Live Oak, Arlington, TX 76012): Newsletter of the Foundation of Light and Metaphysical Education, this one takes a look at various topics from a generally New Age perspective. In #11/12, the editors consider the myth of Mithras and the patterns of the archetypical hero tale. FLAME is also now publishing a calendar of local events. (HL-8r)

*****

THE MIGHTY INSECT #3 (1 stamp from Roy Tompkins, ,PO Box 16022, Austin, TX 78761): A small digest of disgusting cartons. A few unifying themes in #3: cartoon characters in various states of decay and disarrar; bits of bodies floating in strange vats of bubbling liquid; and the hand of fate. I don't think I want to inquire much more deeply. (D-8)

*****

MIND THEATRE #10 ($2.50 from PO Box 1408, Stn. A, London, ONT N6A 5M2, CANADA): A great collection of words and imagery. Two pieces stood out in this issue for me: Chaz's wistful lust story "This Winter", a column of prose flanked by a column of sensitive drawings; and Glenn Grant's "Forest City Stories", the start of a serial in a futuristic and gritty domed version of London, not as dark as "Blade Runner" but nearly as disturbing. There are lots of other drawings and photos too, many quite bizarre and entertaining. (S-44)

*****

MINI-EXAMINER Vol. 9 #13-19 ($1 from Irene Hamlen Stephenson, PO Box 3893, Chatsworth, CA 91313-3893): Irene does biorhythm character analysis. She'll do compatability analyses and so on for her readers, but most of the newsletter is taken up by celebrity analyses. These are sort of like psychosocial tales about famous people, only woven around biorhythms rather than psychology. Entertaining stuff. (S-4)

*****

MINI-XING #2 (50 cents from Liam Brooks, 21 Walnut St. #8, Malden, MA 02148): Smaller and funnier cousin to FANZINE XING. It helps that the stuff here is self-contained, one panel jokes or short stories. Though some of George Sulzbach's gags are old, his stuff is fairly funny social commentary, and Brooks' own rabbit strip isn't bad. (M-12)

*****

THE MINORITY TRENDSLETTER Vol. 1 #2 ($2 from CTWO, 3861 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Oakland, CA 94609): This is the journal of the Center for Third World Organizing, and it focuses in on social and cultural troubles of minorities in this country today. The primary coverage seems to be on blacks and Asians, with AIDS, alcoholicism, and on-campus discrimination being a few of the subjects in this issue. (S-24t)

*****

MONDO HOWIE #3 (50 cents & a stamp from W. Honath, 332 Atlanta Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15228-1125): Howie is a character whose chief virtue is appearing in every panel with a different hat. Thus he's a natural for a comics jam like this, giving D. Worden, Peter Bagge, and others something to focus their creative energies on, while maintaining the overall potato-like features of the hero. (M-8)

*****

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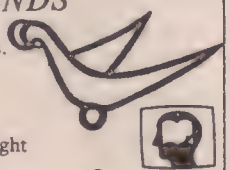


Our Representative is:

Mr. Timothy Paxton
MPO Box 67,
Oberlin,
Ohio 44074-0067,
U.S.A.

THE MONITOR #9 ($15/yr from PO Box 10500, Atlanta, GA 30310): "Countering the Politics of Fear" is the masthead slogan here. These folks are organized to oppose the Nazis and the Klan, whatever name they may be operating under. They tend to drop a broad conspiratorial umbrella over everyone from tax protestors to LaRouchies, but perhaps they may be pardoned for feeling outnumbered and harassed. Excellent source of facts about various right-wing movements. (S-8t)

*****

THE MONTHLY INDEPENDENT TRIBUNE TIMES JOURNAL POST GAZETTE NEWS CHRONICLE BULLETIN #55-56 (50 cents from 2519 Bancroft Way #207, Berkeley, CA 94704): It's back! Editors Child and Tucson were off on a whirlwind tour of Europe to research their forthcoming book, but that's done, and now this little gem of snide humor can return to normalcy. #55 includes hilarious selections from pidgin-English guidebooks. #56 has a test for judging your level of compassion & hypocrisy. (D-8r)

*****

MOONCIRCLES Vol. 2 #10-Vol. 3 #1 (SASE (?) from Nan Hawthorne, PO Box 28621, Seattle, WA 98118): I can't tell for sure, but this appears to be the administrative business behind a batch of round-robin mailings for female pagans. I guess you can write Nan for more details. (S-2)

*****

THE MOORISH SCIENCE MONITOR Vol. 2 #8 ($2 from Verlag Golem, PO Box 3414, Providence, RI 02906): A node in the mystico-occult underground. MSM prints stuff about pedophilia, no-boundaries Moorism, spontaneous combustion rituals, and generally breaking free of reality. Representative contributors, besides the editor, include Hakim Bey, Joel Biroco, and Bob Black. A dazzling trip through a very different sort of spirituality, complete with Emperor Norton. (D-20r)

*****

THE MORAL VOLCANOE #4 (50 cents (?) from Mike the Bike, 2113 Bryant Ave. S #2, Minneapolis, MN 55405): A zine of bicycle touring and social protest. The high point of #4 is Mike's description of Minnesota's northwoods country and the people in it. Also features detourned Dear Abby and nasty comments on the Twins in the World Series. (S-8)

*****

MURDER CAN BE FUN #8 (50 cents CASH from Johnny Marr, PO box 640111, San Francisco, CA 94109): The premiere zine for lovers of sick humor and the soft underbelly of American culture. #8 includes stories on a bevy of mass murderers from Santa Cruz, the Golden Gate 50th anniversary mess, and a look at the fiction of Charles Willeford. The great news is that the size (and price) are doubling with #9; watch for even more strange updates in the future. (D-20r)

*****

MUSI-CALL 1986/1987 ($5 from RRAR Productions, 102 Suffolk St. #2-B, New York, NY 10002): I don't know why this is pubbed in the Big Apple, as it's an annual directory of musicians and music businesses in North Carolina. For promoters and interviewers out there it looks pretty essential. The heart of the production is the band section, with notes on genre, discography, equipment available, and booking contacts. There are also addresses for everything from zines to record stores to lighting equipment, and maps of the major metropoli. (D-224t)

*****

MYSTERIOUS VISIONS ANTHOLOGY 19 (40 cents from Ian Shires, 17914 N. Inlet Dr., Strongsville, OH 44136): Three short poems by Ian, combined with Larry Towsley's illustrations to form something that looks like a minicomic but really isn't. (M-8)

*****

THE MYSTERY FANCIER Vol. 9 #4-5 ($3 from Guy Townsend, 407 Jefferson St., Madison, IN 47250): The times we live in have forced the cover price on this one up; I still think it's worth it. Guy doesn't try to keep up with current mysteries -- there are other zines that do that. Rather, he lets his writers discuss at length and reminisce on older titles. #4 includes another chapter of Francis Nevins' series on Cornell Woolrich and an article on the Gillian Hazeltine pulp stories. Best bet in #5 is the examination of P.G. Wodehouse's correspondance to show his own mystery reading. (D-50r)

*****

NAMBLA BULLETIN Vol. 8 #7 ($20/yr from 537 Jones St. #3418, San Francisco, CA 94102): The journal of one of the most-reviled minorities in the country: the homosexual pedophiles. Despite their sexual inclinations, they're people too, and these pages are where they talk about their hopes and dreams and, more often, their hassles and arrests. Some people go a long way to stand up for their rights and deserve respect for it. (S-16t)

*****

NATIONAL GAZETTE Oct. 1987 ($10/yr from Johnson Graphics, PO Box 317, Decatur, MI 49045): A new tabloid, named after a paper that Tommy Jefferson used to publish, and dedicated to getting the government off our backs by a strict interpretation of the Constitution. Topics in this issue include the immorality of property taxes, the Libertarian nominating convention, and the international drug trade. (T-8)

*****

NATIONAL POLICY WATCH Vol. IV #4 ($15/yr from National Center for Public Policy Research, 300 Eye St. NE #3, Washington, DC 20002): A newsletter for "conservative grassroots activists". They've been active for a couple of years now in producing flyers, posters and what not for conservative causes. A good source for news on new propaganda campaigns from the right. (S-8t)

*****

THE NATURALIST Jan. 1988 ($25/4 issues from Garry De Young, PO Box 7252, Spencer, IA 51301-7252): In this issue, our resident curmudgeon presents documents from a couple of lawsuits he is currently involved in. The central one is against the Veterans' Administration, on whether the Administrator of the VA is a final authority not to be appealed to the courts. (D-30r)

*****

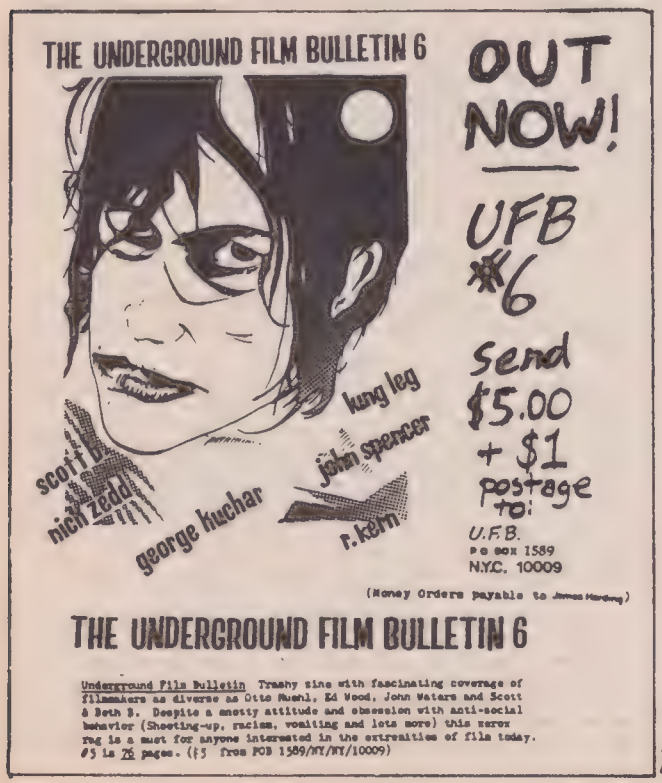
NECK #6-10 ($1 (?) from PO Box 25, Huntington, NY 11743): I can see why the contributors to this humorous "Magazine for People With Necks" choose to remain pseudonymous. Their humor runs to earwax and other bodily functions, non sequitirs, and gross death. Cartoons are amateurish and often pointless. It's free locally, and worth every penny. (S-24)

*****

NEOLOGY Vol. 12 #5 ($1 from FSFACAS, Box 4071 PSSE, Edmonton, Alberta T6E 4S8, CANADA): A sfannish clubzine, published by a bunch of folks who like to hang out together, read SF, and have a good time. #5 is a bit slim but does include catchup fanzine reviews, chilling news of bookstore vandalism, and the usual beautiful mimeographed art. (S-22)

*****

THE NEW AGE MAGAZINE Sept. 1987 ($4/yr from Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, Southern Jurisdiction, 1733 Sixteenth St., Washington, DC 20009): One of my readers thought I might like to know that "The New Age" is a trademark of the Freemasons. He was right. Now you know too. Contents? A lot of patriotic stuff about the wonderful Constitution of these United States. (D-64t)


THE UNDERGROUND FILM BULLETIN 6
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Underground Film Bulletin Trashy zine with fascinating coverage of filmmakers as diverse as Otto Muehl, Ed Wood, John Waters and Scott & Beth B. Despite a smutty attitude and obsession with anti-social behavior (Shooting-up, racism, vomiting and lots more) this terror rag is a must for anyone interested in the extremities of film today. #5 is 76 pages. ($5 from POB 1589/NY/NY/10009)

*****

NEW INDICATOR Vol. 13 #1-2 ($8/yr from UCSD, B-023, La Jolla, CA 92093): A progressive/radical campus paper from San Diego. Most of the coverage is pretty blah, taking a scattershot approach to all sorts of world problems. But things come together in the local problems section, with the articles on FBI arrest and prosecution of a campus activist in #1 being particularly good. (T-8t)

*****

NEW LIBERTARIAN Vol. 4 #18/19 ($2.95 from 1515 W. MacArthur Blvd. #19, Costa Mesa, CA 92626): Still plagued by an inability to keep on schedule, still promising format changes with every issue, NL remains a welcome event whenever it arrives. In this issue Sam Konkin and his feisty staff tackle the question of whether or not there is a libertarian (small-l; these are anarchists) culture. I tend to agree with the nay-sayers, but there are good arguments on both sides, as well as fascinating movement history and columns from Geis and RAWilson. Fun stuff if a trifle ingroupish. (S-32t)

*****

NEW LIBERTARIAN, The Newsletter Vol. V #1 ($1.50 from 1515 W. MacArthur Blvd. #19, Costa Mesa, CA 92626): This is Sam's latest attempt to stay on schedule; small issues of the Newsletter are supposed to alternate with larger magazines (above). Anyhow, #1 includes some crowing over libertarian financial analysts who predicted the stock market crash (but how many missed it?) and a column from arch Discordian Robert Anton Wilson. (S-8t)

*****

NEW PATHWAYS #9 ($2.50 from MGA Services, PO Box 863994, Plano, TX 75086-3994): I think NP is a great new SF zine, but I can't help wondering whether #9 has gone too far towards the margins to attract readers. I suppose it depends on whether they're Hunter Thompson fans, as that is what the articles and art from Ferret, Mink Mole, and Dr. Adder, centering around a crazed high-speed tour of Florida's Alligator Alley, irresistably remind one of. More accesible but still ont eh odd side are stories from Carter Scholz and Rudy Rucker. Don and Rosemary Webb and Misha Chocholak provide reviews of other weirdness. Fun from an extended family of lunatics. (S-39t)

*****

NEW PLAYS & PLAYWRIGHTS Vol. 1 #11-12 ($1 (?) from PO Box 14524, Chicago, IL 60614): A support and news journal for the budding Midwestern playwright. The news is concentrated in the Chicago area, but NP&P has been growing fast, and #12 adds a Mpls./St. Paul section as well. Analysis of current plays, hints on writing, interviews with practitioners, and more. (S-32)

*****

NEW RIVER FREE PRESS Vol. 5 #8 ($1 (?) from PO Box 346, Blacksburg, VA 24060): Distributed free locally, but they'll probably send a copy if you ask. This is a broad-based progressive paper, with reporting on various problems and efforts in areas like helping the homeless, Central America, OSHA mismanagement, and labor solidarity. Best part is the extensive directory of area organizations. (T-20)

*****

NEW ROUTE #11 ($3/yr from 150 W. 87th St. #3A, New York, NY 10024): A slick little twice-yearly number that's distributed by around a hundred college radio stations. Naturally, this means they concentrate on college radio acts. Fortunately, it's mostly the lesser-knowns; U2 gets mentioned, but only for their promotion of smaller bands. Screaming Blue Messiahs, Throwing Muses, and station WFMU make appearances in this issue. (D-32t)

*****

NEWS AND NOTES FROM ALL OVER Winter 1987 (On Request from PO Box 10491, Oakland, CA 94610): The newsletter of the Northern California chapter of the Society for the Eradication of Television, which means just what it says. They feature mainly reprints of articles on the bad effects of TV, together with some letters-to-the-editor type propaganda for their cause. (L-6)

*****

THE NEW SETTLER INTERVIEW #24-27 ($5/10 issues from PO Box 730, Willits, CA 95490): A magazine that talks about the earth by talking to people. #26 had a fascinating pair of back-to-back interviews, one with an Earth Firster who tried to stop some old growth timbering and one with the logger who was supposed to get her out of the tree. Also features lots of ads for water pumps and solar power and local businesses. (S-64t)

*****

NEWS FROM THE MOTHER GROVE Oct.-Dec. 1987 (Donation from PO Box 122, N. Windham, CT 06256): Sort of the administrative newsletter of Bonewits' Ar nDraiocht Fein, the major grouping of Druids in this country. Mostly stuff on meetings and boards and new groves and what-not. Lots of exchange ads from other pagan types.(S-6)

*****

THE NEWSLETTER ON NEWSLETTERS Vol. 24 #24 ($96/yr from 44 W. market St., PO Box 311, Rhinebeck, NY 12572): "For the Newsletter Professional". I suspect the rest of us are in the wrong market. How else to explain these 10-page monthlies on things like restaurants or employee benefits or financial advice or health care selling for $100 or more a year? This publication serves the needs of those pubvlishers, and concentrates on advertising, graphics, and ideas for promotions. Subscribers can obtain free copies of the things reviewed. (S-8)

*****

THE NEW TIMES Vol. 3 #5 ($8.50/yr from PO Box 51186, Seattle, WA 98115-1186): A newspaper for the New Ager. #5 reports that Chris Hanson is running for City COuncil on a New Age Platform, discusses the aftermath of the Harmonic Convergence, and explains how to use obsidian for healing. Reading the latter article, I wonder again just how gullible New Agers are. (T-32t)

*****

NEW UNIONIST #126-127 ($3/10 issues from 621 W. Lake St. #210, Minneapolis, MN 55408): #126 crows over the stock market crash and eagarly predicts a depression, which we all know will be the prelude to revolution. #127 shows unusual courage for a socialist journal in confronting directly the realities of declining union membership in the US, and also presents a piece on the history of sit-down strikes. (T-4t)

*****

NO COVER #3 ($1 (?) from Java Productions, PO Box 2075, Stn. A, Champaign, IL 61620): A pfanzine that's trying hard, but doesn't seem to have found a voice yet. The major problem is that the mix of major (Men Without Hats), minor (fIREHOSE) and unknown (Cowboy X) bands comes off as a lack of direction rather than a commitment to eclecticism. Also features a few short book reviews and coverage of events in this college town. (S-24)

*****

THE NOISE #67-68 ($8/yr from T. Max, 74 jamaica St., JP, Boston, MA 02130): Boston's most steadfast pfanzine. There aren't a lot of pages, but T. manages a nice mix between serious music coverage, foolish gossip, and utter garbage (like the Board Hockey Tournament in #67). Best way I know to keep track of the new bands from Beantown. (S-24t)

*****

NO MORE (75 cents from Josh Petrin, 32 Chestnut Hill, Greenfield, MA 01301): A special one-shot to commemorate the demise of THE DANGEROUS TIMES. In addition to the expected history and celebratory art, Josh presents thoughts on zining and changing the world and some personal-sounding poetry. There's also a strange piece on music produced during the Moronic Divergence. (S-8t)

*****

NO ONE #1-4 (50 cents (?) from PO Box 210208, San Francisco, CA 94121): A small zine of photocopied sensuous photography. That doesn't mean just light porn, although there is some of that here (and that mainly of women). There are also clothed and inanimate shots which somehow have the same loving feeling to them. But this is stuff out of magazines, not original photos, so I can't help wondering: why bother? #4 is a change of page, landscape pictures flanked by Edward Mycue's wide-ranging poetry. (S-10)

*****

NON-STOP BANTER #14 ($2 from Debbie Novak, 16700 S. 94th Ave., Orland Park, IL 60462): I think what sets NSB apart from most other pfanzines is their lack of ambition to be comprehensive. Instead, they review a few (though this is relative, with 24 pages of records in this issue) things that they happen to like and htink deserve a few paragraphs. Other than the great record reviews, they do article/interview combinations with folks like Dinosaur Jr., the Membranes, and My Dad Is Dead. (S-48t)

*****

NOOK NEWS Vol. 3 #4 ($2 from 10957 Chardon Rd., Chardon, OH 44024-9752): Editor Eugene Ortiz says his dream is to establish a center for writers. While he's trying to get the capital together, this zine tries to fill the gap, with market news and hints to writers, as well as some news from the small press world. (s-12)

*****

NOMOS Vol. 5 #5 ($3 from 727 S. Dearborn St. #212, Chicago, IL 60605): NOMOS is undoubtedly one of the best Libertarian pubs around today. Unfortunately, it's not much of an outreach tool, being filled with economic arguments, hairsplitting over defining people's views, judicial recapitulations of the past 300 years, and continued arguments on the worth of Ayn Rand. Some few articles transcend this, but overall, this is a very inward-directed journal. (S-32t)

*****

NORTHERN SUN NEWS Vol. 10 #9-Vol. 11 #1 ($10/yr from 1519 E. Franklin Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55404): A long-running zine of activism, rooted in anti-nuclear causes but by now widely branched out. Topics in #9 include Brian Willson, Gillam Kerley, Leonard Peltier, and recycling. #10 has the story on recent vandalism attacks against a variety of Minneapolis leftist centers. #1 features some reprints on the subject of Aryan Youth. (T-12t)

*****

NOT BORED #13 ($3 from PO Box 107, Buffalo, NY 14215): A Situationist publication that operates on (at least) two levels. The first part of this issue continues a long-running discussion of grafitti which is reasonably accessible to the common reader. After that, though, one gets into cut-up texts and discourses on Derrida and discussions of how to talk like a Sit -- stuff that will leave the average zinester baffled and despairing. In its specialized corner, NB does very well, but it has no interest in widening an audience just for the sake of more readers. (S-38)

*****

THE NOTE Nov.-Dec. 1987 ($9.95/yr from 410 S. Commerce, Wichita, KS 67202): A free (well, locally, anyhow) tabloid with music news about Wichita and other cool cities like Manhattan and Lawrence. It's sponsored by a couple of local radio stations and there's a heavy "party" attitude, but the music news gets through nonetheless. (T-12t)

*****

NOTEBOOK: A LITTLE MAGAZINE Vol. 3 #2 ($5 from Esoterica Press, PO Box 26B43, Los Angeles, CA 90026): This is the "La Raza Cosmica" annual issue of this litmag, devoted to Chicano and Latino writing. There is a subtle difference to these poems and stories; the best way I can find to say it is that they express a strong sense of human dignity. Not everything here is structured around being downtrodden but alive -- but enough is that it stands out as a theme. (D-80)

*****

NOTES 8 & Special Edition 1 ($2 or The Usual from Sam Helm & Ginnie Fleming, 495 W. 186th St. #5E, New York, NY 10034): I think there may be a new breed of sfanzine, and this is one of them. As you can tell by the bitching from older fen in the lettercol, it's certainly not the old breed; but there's still something sfannish about NOTES. Maybe it's the fact that locs take up half the space, the other half being full of strange and wonderful writing by the likes of Jeff Grimshaw, Anni Ackner, and the editors. Anyhow, if you want an introduction to the people in sfandom, rather than the hoary traditions, this is one good place to start. The "Special Edition" is basically an overflow zine, even bigger than the original. (S-36;S-56)

*****

NOTES FROM OBLIVION #19-19 1/2 ($1 from Jay Harber, 626 Paddock Ln., Libertyville, IL 60048): This zine chronicles the hellish state of Jay's life, thanks to an exotic set of medical problems which make it impossible to read or think. What he needs is (in order of importance) understanding innovative medical help, financial resources, and just plain support. #19 1/2 is a special 2-page xmas issue with some complaints about the lousy state of the media. (S-4)

*****

NOTES FROM UNDER THE FLOORBOARDS Vol. 1 #6-Vol. 2 #1 (Trade from Lance Swanson, PO Box 1949, Warren, OH 44482-1949): This is Lance's APA-Lambda zine, and as such it doesn't stand terribly well on its own. His mailing comments are mildly interesting but without the context come off as rather disjointed. Thoughts on gay porno, the current political climate, plagues, and feminism. #1 is more self-contained than previous issues; much discussion of religion, AIDS, and hysteria. (S-7)

*****

NOTHING BUT RECORD REVIEWS #3 ($1 from Mykel Board, 75 Bleecker St., New York, NY 10012): If I ever get out of the music review biz this is one place I'll send people. Mykel reviews every indie record and tape he can get his hands on, and he doesn't give bad reviews. If he can't say something nice, he settles for something descriptive. #3 also features hilarious selection from his incoming mail and a nekkid girl on the cover. (HL-28r)

*****

NOW THAT YOU´RE A WOMAN ($1 or the Usual from Rev. Nanzi Regalia, PO Box 70829, New Orleans, LA 70173): A collage of pictures of scantily-dressed women doing unlikely things, with words from a tampon guide for new users. No doubt there is some deep point here, but it may be just making fun of consumer society. (S-4)

*****

NOW WHAT #1 ($3 from Waves Forest, PO Box 768, Monterey, CA 93942): "Unauthorized Information" and "Unapplied Science" from a vast library of fringe material. The headline here is "AIDS, Cancer cured by Hyper-Oxygenation", and Waves spends a bunch of pages trying to convince us that hydrogren peroxide will do the job. I´m not convinced, and not impressed by the few medical citations -- one of which indicates the DANGERS of hydrogen peroxide in the body. Also a survey of "free energy" machines, plant growth methods, and more. (S-34)

*****

NUCLEAR BULL CRUST #7 ($1 & 2 stamps from 633 Isla Pl., Davis, CA 95616): Another punk zine that concentrates more on the ethos than on the music. Lots of reprints here, dealing with anti-nuke activism (of course), vegetarianism, animal rights, and so on. Also reviews of punk record labels and some hardcore photos. (S-26)

*****

NYE OPPSTOT #13 (? from B. Noodt, Ostersundsgt, 20, 7000 O-Volda, NORWAY): A 16 page Norwegian newsprint zine of anarchist angst and punk music (Dead Swingers, Dod Ved Ankomst). Major articles focus on the KKK, with a short history and random quotations from members and pubs; Dada, with illustrations of original Dada pubs; and multi-media artis Andre Lister. Plenty of bleak collages and photos. Very well printed for this kind of thing. #13 dates from December ´85, so better write before sending money. [review by Jim Reid-Cunningham].

*****

OAK SQUARE Fall 1987 ($3.50 from PO Box 1238, Allston, MA 02134): A small publication of fiction, art, and the occasional bit of poetry. Most of this stuff is deadly serious but often engaging even for those of us who prefer a lighter touch. Check out Sally Cragin´s "Why We Go To Tykey´s" and Paul E. Horan´s "Figures in a Dance", a well-done tale of growing up confused. (HL-36t)

*****

THE ODINIST #110 ($5/8 issues from PO Box 1647, Crystal River, FL 32629): News and commentary from a group dedicated to recovering the original Aryan religions. From the tone of things here they´re separatist but not exterminationist. Topics include natural foods, the decline of law ´n order in this country, and whether or not Marx was a racist. (S-10)

*****

THE OFFENSE NEWSLETTER #76-77 (50 cents (?) from PO Box 12514, Columbus, OH 43212): Now that TKA and I seem to have straightened out the several-year-old hassles over trading I find that this one is pretty fine in its coverage of new music. #76 seems to be the issue to take care of business: massive catch-up reviews of recent SST and Homestead releases and dozens of fanzines dominate. Also photos, letters, and a longish My Dad Is Dead interview. TKA has a great sense of put-down to use in answering his mail too. #77 has lots of 4AD coverage, including an interview with the neglected WOlfgang Press.(S-14r)

*****

OFF THE DEEP END #4 ($2 from Tim Cridland, PO Box 85874, Seattle, WA 98145-1874): A journal for the fan of the strange and wonderful and off the wall, er, deep end. In #4 Tim talks to Robert Anton Wilson, prints further news of the Hollow Earth, and gives space to several different revisionist theories on AIDS. He´s also started selling books that cover some of this material. (S-24r)

*****

OK GO NOW #3 ($1 from Mary Hallett, PO Box 3007, Providence, RI 02906): A small pfanzine that spends most of its time in the stranger byways of cassette culture. A few of the artists mentioned in #3: Human Skab, Shonen Knife, Eugene Chadbourne, and Zoogz Rift. There´s also a long feature on the International Movement of Innovative Music and some quotes about rock from famed Dadaists and others of that ilk. (S-16t)

*****

ONCE UPON A BLUE MOON 4 ($1.50 from Nicki Lynch, 4207 Davis Ln., Chattanooga, TN 37416): This is for fans of the television series Moonlighting. Nicki´s readers write in with their theories about what´s going on in the show and point out little details others might have missed. There´s also a bunch of coverage reprinted from other media, along with lots of pics of Cybill and Bruce. (S-32)

*****

ON GOGOL BOULEVARD #2 ($1 from 151 First Ave. #62, New York, NY 10003): A newsletter for peace and social activists in botht he US and Soviet blocs who want to communicate on a grassroots level. Most of the news is on people who have been repressed by one or the other regime. They need money to get this newsletter into more Eastern hands; so far it´s a pretty one-sided effort. Loads of information that you won´t find anywhere else is available here, including contacts around the world. (S-14t)

*****

ON GUARD #6 ($10/yr from Citizen Soldier, 175 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10010): A paper for people having troubles with the military, from the inside or the out. They feature lots of news on GI rights, proper hearing procedures, and so on. They also chronicle various protests and legal actions against the military. Interesting in #6 are allegations that protestors are being microwave-zapped at several bases. Available at cut rate if you can´t afford more, or in bulk to distribute near bases. (T-12t)

*****

OPTION Q2-R2 ($2.50 from PO Box 491034, Los Angeles, CA 90049): If this one gets much bigger they´ll have to start shipping it via rail freight. OPTION covers indie music of all genres, perhaps not exhaustively, but more widely than most anyone else. Each issue features columns on radio and home recording, features on a dozen or so artists (Q2: Adrian Sherwood, The Oyster Band, The Feelies...; R2: Hugo Largo, Eugene Chadbourne, Barrence Whitfield...) and a bale of record and tape reviews. But the zine printing advice in R2 is amusingly upscale; us po´ folks need other ideas. (S-138t)

*****

THE ORACLE AGENTS #1 ($1 from Steve Keeter, 1003 E. Amelia St., Orlando, FL 32803): A revival of some comic characters created by Steve Shipley in the early 70´s. This is basically a b&w superhero comic, featuring a couple of guys with cat, bird and laser powers. Not much action in the first issue -- it´s mainly introducing everyone and setting up a Big Problem for the future. (D-16)

*****

ORROR VACUI (IRC´s from Mario Cavallaro, V. Gorizia - 9, 95032 Belpasso (CT), ITALY): Mail art that came in a nicely-decorated envelope. Behind the clear plaastic cover are a number of pages of what might be concrete poetry, or just art made up of letters and numbers. It looks much the same as its US equivalent, except for the occasional diacritical mark. (M-28)

*****

OUTER SHELL #26-28 (SASE from Roy Harper, PO Box 7053, St. Petersburg, FL 33734): OS is now appearing in the 15,000-circulation FEEDBACK, but you can still get it wholesale, as it were. In this broadside Roy and his friends ramble on about music to the accompaniment of strange drawings and absurd music-related news stories. #26 is the "Concert Scene" issue. #27 has articles on Rolling Stone and the current state of the music scene. In #28 Dr. Iguana describes the worst concerts he´s ever been to and asks for horror stories from readers. (S-2r)

*****

OUTLET 36 (L2 from Trev Faull, 33 Aintree Crescent, Barkingside, Ilford, Essex IG6 2HD, ENGLAND): A magazine simply jam-packed with record reviews. Trev listens to everything from R&B forward, or so it seems, with emphasis on obscure indies. #36 features longish articles on The Residents and the Legendary Pink Dots (with discography) and a flexidisc from bizarros The Chrysanthemums, among much else. (A4-30r)

*****

OVUM (50 cents from Jeff Curtis, PO Box 6643, Cleveland, OH 44101-1643): A portfolio of art by Jeff, who also publishes Sub Comics and sundry other things. Most of these are sketches of people, often young women, in apparent emotional distress. Jeff plays with points of view and distorition to try to convey more than the surface meaning. Sometimes he succeeds. (M-20)

*****

PAGAN FREE PRESS #1 ($1 (?) from Victor Brotte, PO Box 55223, Tulsa, OK 74155): An "open forum" for pagans to share their knowledge. The first issue contains quick articles on Tarot, Numerology, runes (a cipher alphabet, actually) and the healing properties of comfrey. Looking for donations and contributions, available for enough stamps to cover postage. (D-20r)

*****

PAGANS FOR PEACE NEWSLETTER #31-32 ($15/yr from Sam Wagar, PO Box 6531, Stn. A, Toronto, ONT M5W 1X4, CANADA): This is the central node of a pretty far-flung network of people who are both pagans and activists. The activism isn´t limited strictly to peace; there are plenty of ecological concerns here as well. #32 suggest pagan-to-pagan networking to support beleaugered voodoo practitioners in Haiti. (S-6)

*****

PALLAS SOCIETY NEWS Vol. 2 #4 ($2 from Box 2015, 1800 S. Robertson Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90035): A pagan zine that tries to pull together each issue around a couple of themes. In #4 these are living with a non-Craft spouse and spellcasting. In addition, there are regular columnists who talk about whatever they like -- notably Forest River and Rita Winston, who discuss Tarot and the seasons, respectively. Well-crafted, if I may be permitted a small pun. (HL-56)

*****

PANOPLY #2 ($2.50 from Mark Slatcher, 11833 E. 62nd St., Broken Arrow, OK 74012): This litmag has taken 6 months and 500 submissions, but it's gotten a second ish out. In a way all that effort is a bit of a pity, since nothing here really grabs me other than a half-page silly story by Rita Laws. The longer fiction and the poetry seem too crafted and sterile somehow; maybe I've gotten too used to the wilder press. Also includes market news and reviews. (S-24)

*****

PARANOIS FREE PRESS #3 (15 cents/page plus postage from Von K. Lechner, 115 Coolidge Ave., Collingswood, NJ 08108): That rate applies to PFP and to individual collages, if you'd like some stuff to publish. PFP is a collection of small but odd pictures and socio-political commentary; in #3 Von goes after Contragate and Decaf coffee and the FCC and the treatment of the mentally disturbed, among other topics, in short essays. (S-8)

*****

PASKAPA #2 ($2 from Agni Runningweed, PO Box 371, Suffern, NY 10901): The apa of the Pagan Skeptic's League, which is just getting off the ground. Two bucks gets you the first two issues so you can follow the conversations. Though the members are skeptical about different things, there seems to be an overall commitment to trying to develop a skeptical ontology which nevertheless allows magic into the world. I wish them luck. (S-14r)

*****

THE PATH #10-12 ($15/yr from PO Box 436, New Hyde Park, NY 11040): A zine of esoteric lore from a lot of traditions, some apparently the idiosyncratic creations of the writers. They go in for mysticism along the lines of the Tarot and the Qabala, as well as psychic powers. #11 discusses some of the mythological successors to Inanna. (S-6)

*****

PCC #9 ($1.75 CASH from Adam, 9218 White Oak, San Antonio, TX 78230): This is more like a slice of a subculture than a zine. All sorts of things get collaged in here: letters to the editor (or other papers), music reviews, transcribed talk between ordinary folks, ranting and raving, art, and more. I guess it all centers around being in college and pissed at the world. Fun reading, but why? Maybe it doesn't need a why. There's certainly a lot of what to chew on while you think about it. (S-36r)

*****

THE PEACEMAKER Vol. 40 #9 ($10/yr from PO Box 527, Garberville, CA 95440): A central clearing-house for news of peace and non-violent resistance. With an active letters column, it functions almost like an apa. Subjects in #9 include war tax resistance, nonviolence and Nicaragua, draft resistance, and fighting radioactive waste dumping. (T-8t)

*****

PEACE OR ANNHILATION #10 ($1.50 from Bollie Nijs, Parkietstraat 5, 3610 Diepenbeek, BELGIUM): Hardcore pfanzine written in passable, though not perfect, English. It's basically devoted to interviews, a few of Belgian bands, many more from the US. In #10: Ripcord, SNFU, Bad Brains, Heresy, and lots more. Also a few pieces about things like public schooling and racism and a nice layout. (A4-48)

*****

PEACEWORK #170-171 ($7/yr from AFSC, 2161 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02140): A mainstay of the anti-war movement is this journal from the American Friends Service Committee. They keep track of nonviolent resistance of all sorts and try to focus on the major political and social problems in the world today. #170 includes extensive coverage of the Puerto Rico 15 trial and news on the Stop War Toys campaign. #171 looks back on the situation in Cambodia and critiques the stand of hte peace movement. (S-15)

*****

THE PEOPLE Vol. 97 #14 ($1/4 months from 914 Industrial Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94303): An uncompromising tabloid from the Socialist Labor Party. If you didn't get your socialism from Marx and DeLeon, or if you don't believe reforms can sometimes help, they don't have much to say to you. Mainly analysis of the terrible state that capitalism is in these days. (T-8t)

*****

PEOPLE'S DAILY WORLD Vol. 2 #63 ($1/3 months from PO Box 2038, Old Celsea Stn., New York, NY 10011): An interesting case: a commie paper that seems to nowhere mention the fact. But it's pretty obvious from the topics -- international unionism, struggle in South Africa, the US impeding arms talks, and so on. I somehow doubt that the news is very unslanted here. (T-12t)

*****

PEOPLE'S TRIBUNE Vol. 14 #20 ($10/yr from PO Box 3524, Chicago, IL 60654): If you're keeping the box scores, this one comes from the Communist Labor Party. As you might expect, all the articles are about how rough life here is for the workers. Of course communism is the answer. But there's no particular proactive plan, just the usual calls for worker organization. (T-8t)

*****

THE PERMACULTURE ACTIVIST Vol. III #1 ($16/yr from PINA, 6488 Maxwelton Rd., Clinton, WA 98236): Newsletter of the Permaculture Institute of North America. I don't think I understand all the nuances, but "permaculture" is some sort of ecologically-sound, self-sustaining, sustainable living scheme, with an emphasis on appropriate agriculture. I think. Anyhow, this networks together a bunch of people with similar interests and provides a forum for finding answers to permaculture questions. (S-24t)

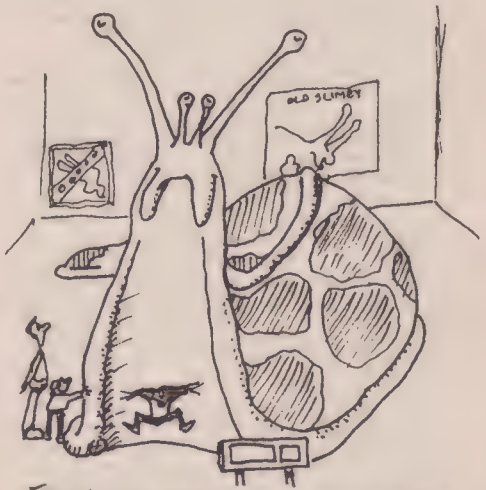
*****

PHALLOS, Oct.-Dec. 1987 ($5/yr from St. Priapus Church, 583 Grove St., San Francisco, CA 94102): The newsletter of a Christian church with some decidedly non-mainstream beliefs. Among other things they discuss suppressed homosexual gospel writings, sex as a path to salvation, and the evils of circumcision and celibacy. They also help run a food mission for poor gays and are active in the community. The December issue alleges that AIDS is not transmitted by oral sex, contrary to what the media claims. (D-16r)

*****

PUFUDD! 9 ($2.05 from 714 Shady Ave., Sharon, PA 16146): A zine that seems determined to wallow in the best of the old punk and not too much of the new, though that may be buried among the zillions of record reviews. Features include a comparison of Bangs and Meltzer as rock critics and a long article on a Stooges bootleg. The print size here is small enough to challenge even regular FF readers, though. (S-26r)

*****



FOSSILIZED SLUG, SLUGOSAURUS REX

THIS COLLOSSAL FOSSIL WAS FOUND IN YELM, AT WHAT IS NOW WORLD-FAMOUS INCREDIBLE SLUG CAVERNS. THE FOLKS THERE HAVE AN AMAZING COLLECTION OF SLUG ART, LORE, T-SHIRTS AND MORE! (OPEN 12-5 WINTER HOURS)

PHILIP MORRIS MAGAZINE Winter 1988 (On Request from PO Box C-32058, Richmond, VA 23261-9905): They must put a lot of money into this slick little sucker. Most of the pieces are human interest or trivia: Queen Ida, Elvis, the chef at the White House, jackalopes. Every once in a while they slip in some pro-smoking editorializing. Like an airline magazine with cigarettes. (S-48t)

*****

PHILLY ZINE #5 ($1 from Jesse Townley, 108 Rochelle Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19128): Anchored in punk, this one gets out into wider areas, with alternative comix, writings by Bob Black and Gerry Reith, and other esoterica. This issue features interviews with More Fiends and one of the best new names I've seen, Natalie Wood's Pool Party. Jesse also has a New Jersey/Pennsylvania compilation tape available for $3. (S-22r)

*****

PHOEBE Vol. 4 #2 ($1 from James MacDougall, 3220 N St. NW #333, Washington, DC 20007): "The Newsletter of Eccentricity" is back and looking better than ever in a new typeset incarnation. J. Mac publishes the strangest news: off-the-wall holiday gifts, duck racing, unusual thefts, dumbest TV shows, brunch for elephants, colorized movies, and all the other flotsam and jetsam of a dying culture permeate these pages. And it's all for real! The pulse of the decline and fall. (S-10t)

*****

THE PHOENIX Nov. 1987 ($12/yr from 2454 Arona St., Roseville, MN 55113): "Health - Recovery - Renewal - Discovery" is the theme here, or to be even briefer, healing. The PHOENIX explores all manner of healing activities, from self-designed rituals to a variety of New Age approaches to life to mainline alcoholicism treatment. A forum for "helping professionals" of all sorts to get their ideas across. (T-16t)

*****

PHOSPHORUS FLOURISH #21 ($2 from John Rininger, PO Box 2479, Stn. A, Champaign, IL 61820): A grand collection of art and prose devoted to death, surgery and confusion. Much of this is dark and foreboding, combining images of alienation with those of loneliness and despair. A few pages pop in unexpected bits of humor, like the apparently-real 1969 FBI memo about subversive literature. John indulges in bizarre layout; this issue is about 4" x 14". Also contains contact addresses for other bizarre publications. (HL-44)

*****

PHOTOGRAPHIC INsight #1 ($5 from The Bristol Workshops in Photography, 474 Thames St., Bristol, RI 02809): I take my photos with a Polaroid SX-70, so don't think I'm qualified to review this. But I enjoyed skimming the panel discussion on the "relevant asthetic issues in the discourse of photography" anyhow. The interview with photojournalist Stan Grossfeld was even better -- I love a person who has fun in his work. Anyhow, any hardcore photohounds in the audience might want to check this well-produced slick out. (S-32t)

*****

PHOTOSTATIC #27,#9.27, & #28 ($3.50 from 424 E. Jefferson St. #4, Iowa City, IA 52240): The theme of this issue is "compensation portraits," evidently an artform originally proposed by Marcel Duchamp, whose centeniary it celebrates. I don't know what the nuances are here, but the main theme is fairly evident: these are portraits of people (the contributors?) not as they are, but as they might be. A variety of cut-up and photocopy techniques are used to change from the real to the less real. Features an international cast of distinguished artists. #9.27 is a reprint of #9 and #9 1/2, intended to keep ageless art circulating in a new audience. #28 has the theme "Test Patterns" and includes the first issue of a new experimental audio zine, RETROFUTURISM, in the margins. Submissions for future issues are solicited. (HL-40)

*****

THE PIG PAPER #31-32 (50 cents (?) from 70 Cotton Dr., Missisauga, ONT L5G 129, CANADA): Gary "Pig" Gold crams a lot into two pages, with bodacious amounts of clippings and nonsense from his personal files. #31 is another Elvis retrospective, complete with coffin photo and conspiracy theories. #32 considers some of the fallout from the early days of punk, way back when. Gary also does a syndicated rock column; write him for details. (S-2r)

*****

PLAGIARISM Vol. 1 #2-4 (56 cents postage from Ron Woolley, 11 Washington Ct., Smithtown, NY 11787): This is essentially a pfanzine without the music coverage. Actually, that's sort of refreshing, because it means that Ron and his friends are just writing about what bothers or excites them other than music. It's nice to see that thought isn't alien to the youth of America (not that I ever really thought it was). A good look at the state of the scene. #4 has a lot of discussion of what anarchy means and whether it makes sense. (D-16)

*****

PLUTONIUM PRESS

The following items are available from Chris Winkler, PO Box 255, Moorooka, Queensland 4105, AUSTRALIA. Prices, alas, are rather high due to postage but, if you're into experioddica, definitely worth checking out. Chris is also looking for manuscripts for future chapbooks: poetry, visuals, drawings or any combination of the above.

THE ALPHABET POEMS ($1): A small booklet, with the first page containing a short poem with all th words starting with 'A', the second starting with 'B' and so on. The words are for the most part esoteric and translating these poems into coherent thoughts is tough. Bacover collage by Mike Miskowski. (MM-32)

I DREAM OF WAR ($1): A chapbook by Tom Roberts, with words and images that serve to transform soldiers into mindless ants. (M-8)

TUYAU ($1): Published in France, but copies are available from Chris. This one is all vaguely portrait-like drawings of people, metamorphosed by a mad sense of pen and ink. (M-16)

TWA DREGS DISSOLVE MELBOURNE ($1.50): A collaboration with Pete Spence of Post Neo Publications. Multiply-transformed photocopy texts with people receding into insignificance in the face of artifacts. (M-12)

*****

THE POPE #3 ($1 from Tim Adams, 306 Zahn Hall, Notre Dame, IN 46556): A rapidly-fattening pfanzine that is given to blunt honesty. Tim has no intention of being just another wimp reviewer and when he gets your record or zine it's in for a searching look. He also interviews bands he likes (Vomit Launch, Sister Ray, Primitons, Laughing Hyenas and more) and reviews lots of live shows that you can't possibly listen to yourself but are worth reading about anyhow. (D-64t)

*****

POPPIN' ZITS #1 ($1.39 from Jerod Pore, 495 Ellis St. #954, San Francisco, CA 94102): PZ defies categorization, so let me start by saying that you ought to get a copy. That done, this issue contains assorted conspiracy theories, cyberpunk fiction, selections from a database of mass media curiosities, reviews of various audio, video and printed matters, and great collage-and-computer layouts. And Jerod is even proposing to PAY for accepted submissions (but don't send poetry). A great piece ripped from the corner of underground culture. (S-18)

*****

POPULAR REALITY the Very Last Issue ($3.50 from PO Box 3402, Ann Arbor, MI 48106): PR goes out with a bang, featuring lots of marginals stuff from Bob Black, Al Ackerman, Hakim Bey, Bob McGlynn, Celeste Oatmeal and of course editor David Crowbar. Included are a satirical answer to the Holocaust Revisionists, SubGenius dogma, inscrutability from John Zerzan, confusing graphics, heated letters and much more. Your last chance to see what you've been missing. (T-48r)

*****

PORTENTS #4 ($3.50 from Deborah Rasmussen, 12 Fir Pl., Hazlet, NJ 07730): A relatively new entry in the hooror fiction market that's getting better in a hurry. #4 seems to be the Devilish issue; three or four stories feature that august personage. The best is Roger Dale Trexler's "Hot Sweat", a tale straight from Revelations in modern trappings. #4 also features an interview with editor David Silva. (D-52)

*****

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5

POSSIBILITY POST #5 ($1 from Lee Glickstein, 116 Coleridge St., San Francisco, CA 94110): This zine is winding down its attempt to brainstorm by mail, a project that seems to have been sandbagged by the timescale involved. But the lack of ideas gives Lee a chance to talk about his west coast life and describe a coming publication on the healing uses of humor, which ought to be pretty interesting. (S-2t)

*****

POST MOCKS #1 ($1 from TKA, 3021 N. Southport, Chicago, IL 60657): A neat little idea. This is a collection of marginal doodlings from comic artists' correspondence. If you are privy to any such you will know that these folks can't help drawing all over everything and constructing elaborate cartoon signatures. Well, now you can see a bunch all in one place. No plot, of course; just a bunch of stuff that's better off not being quite so ephemeral. (M-16)

*****

THE PRAGMATIST Vol. 5 #2-3 ($2 from PO Box 392, Forest Grove, PA 18922): While few people were watching, this one grew into one of the best outreach newsletters of the Libertarian movement. Whether you like the idea of the free market or hate it, you'll find their arguments in its favor exciting, timely, and challenging. Topics discussed in #2 include trade deficits, privatizing foreign policy, and nuclear power. #3 includes a lengthy symposium on the possibility of a free-market defense. The goal is always to show that government is dispensable. (S-16t)

*****

THE PRAIRIE RAMBLER #124 ($1.23 from PO Box 505, Claremont, CA 91711-0505): A collection of short quotes and comments from Mencius to the present. It reminds me a bit of a long spell of bottom of the page stuff from READER'S DIGEST, only these bits are more thought-provoking and less cutesy-poo amusing. (S-8)

*****

PRAYERS ($1 from Denise Dee, 29 A Guy Pl., San Francisco, CA 94105): If you haven't experienced Denise's writing yet this is a good place to start. This booklet was written along with her friend Steve Keena, and they each tell short stories of their past that cut to the bone of human relationships. Most touching is the reflection on religious purity that apparently suggested the title. The plea for the return of Hugger the cat is also very moving. Writing straight from the heart with no punches pulled. (HL-20)

*****

PRESENTS OF MIND #18 ($1 CASH from 13948 Methuen Green, Dallas, TX 75240): Collages, cut-ups and other nonsense with a Dadaistic slant. Various images of popular culture from the 1950s on are combined with confusing and sardonic prose to try and kick your frontal lobes in the seat of their pants. Other icons include Hunter Thompson and "Bob" Dobbs. (S-24)

*****

PRESUMPTIONS #23 ($1 from D. Patrick Miller, 1442A Walnut St. #58, Berkeley, CA 94709): This is Patrick's "Letter at Large", devoted to trying to find a mesh between form and content that will have a steady market without sacrificing purity. So it changes around all the time as he tries new ways to reach an audience. #23 is an anomaly, without much of his writing; instead, author J. Ruth Grendler muses about television and creativity. (S-2t)

*****

THE PRINTER'S DEVIL #4 (On Request from Mother of Ashes Press, PO Box 135, Harrison, ID 83833-0135): Put out by the pleasantly talkative Joe Singer, this is aimed at everyone in the small press who would like to see their stuff printed (as opposed to photocopied). Joe discusses tips and tricks, and lets others in the trade do the same. With this issue Fred Woodworth begins a column of technical information, arguing in favor of typesetting. Also features some reviews of the small press. (S-14t)

*****

PRINTER'S INK Fall 1987 (On Request from Thomshon-Shore, PO Box 305, Dexter, MI 48130-0305): A quarterly newsletter from a small book-publishing house. They mean it to remind you to call them for a quote on short-run (under 5000 copies) book projects, but it's also a good way to learn about the printing business. Full of good solid advice. I've never dealt with them but they seem like nice people. (S-4t)

*****

THE PROJECT Vol. IV #6/7/8 ($2 (?) from A-Albionic, PO Box 20273, Ferndale, MI 48220): A newsletter for conspiracy theory buffs. They tend to focus in on the British Empire, seeing this as the key to world history since the Vatican lost most of its power. Heavy on book reviews, esoteric theorizing, and input from subscribers, both skeptical and adulatory. (S-8r)

*****

PSYCHIC READER Vol. 10 #10 ($15/2 yrs from Deja Vu Publishing Co., 1314 Lincoln Ave., San Rafael, CA 94901): Pick your favorite cliche about flakey Californians and use it. I lost it entirely when I came to the analysis of the spirit inhabiting their new Pagemaker software. Mainly plugs for the Berkeley Psychic Institute and its graduates. (T-24t)

*****

PUBLIC NEWS #294 ($1 (?) from 1540 W. Alabama, Houston, TX 77006): What I don't understand is why the folks at St. Joseph Hospital requested not to be sent any more copies of this free tabloid. The music coverage, from Love and Rockets to Pink Floyd, is pretty innocuous. Maybe it was the recipe for a turducken that did them in, or the Life in Hell comic. Anyhow, this is probably worth reading for locals only, who already know about it. (T-20t)

*****

PUSH-MACHINERY #11 ("very open to exchange" from Daniel F. Bradley, 551A Crawford, Toronto, ONT M6G 3J9): A collection of photocopied art images. They range from apparently straight photographs, to mutli-generational photocopies that have become abstract art, to concrete poetry. One can't take them too linearly or one will go quite bonkers. Heavy areas of black give the whole a foreboding feeling. (L-13)

*****

PUSSYFOOTIN 2 ($1 (?) from Bob Sheridan, 10922 Fortune Ave., Cleveland, OH 44111): A collection of original drawings of young women wearing little or no clothing, mainly in men's magazine poses. They range from sensuous fantasy to light domination, and mainly feature improbable anatomical excesses. (S-12)

*****

PWA COALITION NEWSLINE #28 ($2 from 263A W. 19th St. #125, New York, NY 10011): A support journal for People With AIDS and their friends and loved ones. Each issue has news on the medical front, ideas on how to cope, and plenty of coverage of activism around the country. #28 is heavy with the fallout from the massive demonstrations in DC. (S-48t)

*****

QUIMBY #10 ($3 from PO Box 281, Astor Stn., Boston, MA 02123): A very spiffy magazine from Boston's art world. #10 has tipped into it a Joe Marshall Print and the latest issue of QUIMBY COMIX, their graphic arts wing. The main zine has sculpture (well, pictures of it, anyhow), interviews, short stories, drawings, and lots of paintings in various media. There are also human/artist-interest stories from around town and an interesting rogue's gallery of contributors. Vibrant and upbeat from a city where the arts appear to be thriving. (S-64t)

*****

QUOTATIONS FROM CHAIRMAN JONES (SASE from Jim Hayes, 96 Marion St., Morgantown, WV 26505): That's Jones as in Jim, as in Jonestown. This little ditty includes some literature citations on the tragedy, a rant that might be by the Rev himself, some evaluations of the promising community by passing dignitaries, and a slightly altered poster urging people to discover the holy man's services. (D-4r)

*****

RAGTIME #7-8 ($5/6 issues from Charles Clark, PO Box 15674, Minneapolis, MN 55415): It seems odd to call this a pfanzine, since it deals exclusively in CCM: Christian Contemporary Music. Yeah, modern gospel and religious stuff, from Rock to Rap. Charles reviews a lot of things you won't even find mentioned elsewhere in the underground press, and tries to get across his enthusiasm without unduly preaching. Sometimes he succeeds. #8 includes a transcript of a Leslie Phillips interview. (D-12t)

*****

RAINBOW BRIDGE Fall 1987 (50 cents (?) from PO Box 42755, Tucson, AZ 85733): An echo down the years from the summer of love. This one combines rainbows, poetry, and pseudoscience to argue for peace, peace, peace. "Building the Rainbow Peace Bridge" is the slogan but how it works, nobody knows. (S-4)

*****

RANDOM WRITINGS #15-16 ($1 CASH or $2 Check/MO from Jim Stumm, PO Box 29, Hiler Branch, Buffalo, NY 14223): As the title says, this is a (not-quite-) random selection from Jim's correspondence with libertarians and others of like ilk. Topics in #15 include defense in panarchy, whether the free rider problem requires government, and early Biblical texts. In #16 Jim continues a long-running dialogue with John Zube on the potential of private militias for promoting freedom. (S-5r)

*****

RATBEAT #3 ($2.40 from PO Box 361, 00121 Helsinki, FINLAND): RATBEAT has plans to be sort of the premiere indie music international marketplace. RIght now it's got darned good coverage of music scenes from around the world: Spain, East Germany, Australia, Finland, the U.S and more. There are

record reviews, interviews with bands (including the Flaming Lips) and lots of interesting ads. (T-32t)

*****

THE REALIST #105 ($2 from PO Box 1230, Venice, CA 90294): Paul Krassner is back and as funny and cutting as ever. He's had a lot of grist for his mill lately in the form of Irangate, and he does his best to make fun of it all. Now he's apparently gearing up for the '88 elections. See what the 60's think of the 80's...it's not a pretty sight. The best humor deal around. (S-8t)

*****

REALISTIC LIVING #7 ($10/yr from PO Box 140826, Dallas, TX 75214): Many of my readers will be deeply suspicious on hearing that Gene and Joyce Marshall (the mainstays of this journal) are Radical Christians. But really, they're not bad folks; they're looking ahead to the future in their own way, with a vision that includes familial living, green and ecological concerns and, yes, Christianity. The articles here are mainly works of inspiring quiet hopeful faith. We're not on the same path, but I don't think our paths are so very different. (S-16)

*****

REALITY HACKERS NEWSLETTER Vol. 1 #2 ($30/yr from PO Box 40271, Berkeley, CA 94704): "The Official Newsletter of Science and Fun" -- these people are into all sorts of hip new things, like designer drugs and nanotechnology and the Harmonic Convergence. The drawbacks: an erratic publishing schedule and too much awe for the big names in the New Age. But there's gold here if you can afford to mine it. (S-20t)

*****

RED BASS #10-11 ($2 from 2425 Burgundy St., New Orleans, LA 70117): A literary journal that is also heavily into social justice -- and so they do all they can to make the two combine. In some cases, as with the Vonnegut interview in #11, things fall rather flat. But fortunately, that doesn't happen often, and nearly the entire Women's International Arts issue (#10) is vibrantly alive with people trying to change politics through changing culture. (T-32t)

*****

RED BUDDHA #33 ($9/yr from Rev. N.B. Shifferly, Mind-Way Church, PO Box 664, Mansfield, OH 44901): House organ of a rather eclectic martial arts and meditation group. They concentrate on helping men in prison but are open to members outside the walls as well. Each issue generally contains a selection of wisdom from past warriors. Also available for $1 is "Ode to the Wood-God", a 4-page comic of pagan triumph over modern religions. (S-6)

*****

RELIGION WATCH Vol. 3 #1-3 ($14/yr from PO Box 652, N. Bellmore, NY 11710): A newsletter about contemporary religion, compiled by Richard Cimino from extensive reading in religious publications. He divides his coverage up into a series of half-page or so stories, each interesting in its own right, woven together into a larger picture. In #1 Eastern religions get some attention, from Buddhism in the US to Catholicism in Lithuania. #2 told me about Anglican-use Catholic parishes in the US. #3 includes a look back on major religious trends from 1987. (S-8)

*****

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ALERT Vol. III #6-Vol. IV #1 ($10/yr from Coalition for Religious Freedom, 325 Pennsylvania Ave. SE, Washington, DC 20003): These folks are dedicated to giving churches freedom from the state. They carry a lot of stories about troubles with the tax collector and the school board in this country, and general repression in Communist countries. What's missing is any news involving left-wing churches; everybody covered here is from a main-line conservative faith of one sort or another. (T-16t)

*****

RELUCTANT SADIST 4-6 ($1 from H. Weaver, 501 Dunmore St. #F, Norfolk, VA 23510): A short black and white comic (with the exception of the hand-colored cover on #4) that explores strange topics. #4 and 5 are a double issue, "Reality Doldrums", about a man who falls into the clutches of a coffee church. #6 is "Night Vision", a graphic nightmare with a strange twist. Visually innovative and disturbingly plotted. (D-12)

*****

REM 10 ($1.50 from Charles Platt, 594 Broadway #1208, New York, NY 10012): A sfanzine that seems embroiled in infighting right now, in part because Charles is willing to attack various sacred and/or large cows. Right now he seems to be fighting the most with Bridge Publications, a Scientology-backed group that some people think is trying to muscle into the SF field, though a convincing motive has yet to be adduced. Fascinating gossip and accusations. (D-20t)

*****

THE REPEAL OF DECORUM Fall 1987 (On request from WRPI, Troy, NY 12180-3590): For its 30th anniversary the WRPI Program Guide has changed its name and put out a gala issue complete with historical photos and news stories. Unfortunately the history is a bit too sketchy. As you'd expect, there are schedules and show descriptions here, but also much more: reviews and interviews (Diamandia Galas), artwork, and even thoughts on starting a pirate station of your own. (S-40t)

*****

RESISTANCE #11 ($6/yr from Friends of Durruti, PO Box 790, Stn. A, Vancouver, BC V6C 2N6, CANADA): Subtitled "Documents and Analysis of the Illegal Front", this is mostly a collection of communiques from groups who take the time to shoot capitalists in the kneecaps and blow up bits of expropriated property. Long on rhetoric and violence. (T-16t)

*****

RESONANCE #9 ($1 from Judy Wall, PO Box 64, Sumterville, FL 33585): A MENSA Special Interest Group pub, this one for people interested in Bioelectromagnetics (BEM) -- the study of the interaction of people and electromagnetic fields. Discussion can get quite far out at times, but sticks to the basic ideas, or at least the vocabulary, of mainstream science. (D-8t)

*****

REVENGE OF THE STATE (50 cents from William Dockery, 3226A River Ave., Columbus, GA 31904): I think this is by PD Wilson, but it's hard to sort out the credits on Dockery's minis. Anyhow, this is a group of poems and drawings combined to tell the story of an uncertainly surrealistic trial. (M-8)

*****

REVOLUTIONARY WORKER #421 (75 cents from Box 3486, Merchandise Mart, Chicago, IL 60654): Tabloid of the Revolutionary Communist Party and their saviour, Chairman Bob Avakian. Apparently Communism consists of using lots of exclamation points in your rhetoric, while looking around for parades to get in front of. I can't imagine a good reason to take this seriously. (T-16t)

*****

RHETORIC FARM #10 ($1 from PO Box 43171, Tucson, AZ 85733-3171): Although this aspires to be a "journal of art, music, poetry and fiction", the music pretty well overwhelms #10, what with a whole bunch of record reviews, tape reviews by Al Perry, and a Meat Puppets interview. There's also a few drawings, some Oberc poems, and some non-fiction mood writing. (D-28t)

*****

THE RUBBER FANZINE Vol. III #1 ($1.25 & 39 cents postage from J.C. Palmer, PO Box 2432, Bellingham, WA 98227-2432): Editor Rudi Rubberoid has a good thing going here and he knows it. The art in this zine -- which is just about all there is, apart from the occasional silly letter -- is created by a veritable corps of inspired lunatics, armed with rubber stamps. The creativity here is simply marvelous, showing what can be done with a lot of commerically-available (and occasionally homemade) art. Recommended to all small art lovers. (S-20)

*****

RURAL NETWORK ADVOCATE #48-50 ($10/yr from Lois Kohles, Rt. 2 Box 150B, Gays Mills, WI 54631): A group watering-hole for singles getting back to the land who want to share lives and ideas. It's the tip of an iceberg of organization that swaps biographies and meeting invitations, but interesting in its own right. #48 was especially good, full of ideas from people on how to survive without a "real" job. (S-8)

*****

SACRATOMATO COMICS (50 cents from Lynn Hansen, 1834 Bell St. #21, Sacramento, CA 95825): A minicomic of random and somewhat surreal art, from Lynn, Steve WIlis, and others. My favorite pieces include the giant tomato on the cover and the guy who crucified himself on the TV antenna. Lightweight, no plot. (M-8)

*****

SAMAGRAM Vol. 1 #5 ($10/5 issues from Samantha Smith Foundation, 9 Union St., Hallowell, ME 04347): A slick little number dedicated to proving that Soviet kids are people too. Lots of news about various exchange programs between the superpowers plus some stories for the kids and first lessons in Russian. (HL-20t)

*****

SAMISDAT Vol. 49 #1 ($15/500 pages from Merritt Clifton, PO Box 129, Richford, VT 05476): Merritt puts out a damned fine zine, as he has for many years. There are three main threads here. The first is personal writing, often about environmental and social concerns and the political climate that makes them concerns. The second is reviews, and here is where SAMSIDAT shines; it's the best source of blunt reviews of poetry presses that I know of. As a third thrust, Merritt prints poetry and fiction himself; there are some astoundingly good poems here, as well as a sample of Miriam Sagan's current prose work. Recommended most highly. (D-64r)

*****

SATAN'S COURIER #1 ($2 & Age Statement from Scarlet Rose, PO Box 23106, Columbus, OH 43223): The bulk of this introductory zine consists of a seance (or, as the New Agers would have it, channelling) of Satan and Beelzebub. They've apparently picked the editor to do their work in this world and now she's waiting to see what comes next. The Wiccan Rede -- "an' it harm none" -- comes in for a bit of bending here. (S-5)

*****

SCAVENGER'S NEWSLETTER #44-47 ($1 from Janet Fox, 519 Ellinwood, Osage City, KS 66523-1329): A reviewzine that is a MUCH better place to look than FACTSHEET FIVE if you're interested in selling poetry or short stories in the small press. Janet keeps up with dozens, maybe hundreds of markets, letting her readers know who's buying and who's not. Anthologies and other special projects are listed as well as zines. SNL also contains some reviews of non-markets, hints on writing, and general small press notes. A welcome arrival in my mailbox. Geared towards SF/fantasy/horror. (HL-16r)

*****

THE SCENE ($3/6 months from PO Box 570, Clarkston, MI 48016-0570): This seems to be mainly a showcase for the writings of one Dale Allen Pfeiffer, who I gather is the publisher. He writes about rock shows and pixies in the same tortuous, full of big words style, which seems to be saying a lot but is actually pretty empty. A strange cross of musical and literary arts, and one which didn't take very well. (D-16r)

*****

SCIENTIA Vol. 2 #5-6 ($8/yr from Andrew P. Smith, 10A Woodland Ave., San Francisco, CA 94117): I've always had a hankering to write popular science myself, so I'm pleased to see Andrew doing just that on an amateur basis. But it's only the scale that's amateur, not the writing: he focuses on current hot topics (AIDS transmission, holographic information storage, holistic medicine) and provides plenty of references, graded by difficulty. An adjunct to the regular journals, written in a speculative, chatty fashion but solidly backed up. #6 gives us "the ten most ignored science news stories of 1987." (S-10t)

*****

SCREAMING SKULL #4 ($1 from Pete Winston, PO Box 241, Groton, MA 01450): I still like SS even if I find it necessary to point out that Pete did NOT in fact marry my sister. After all, who can dislike a zine populated by snide skulls in the margins of a GG Allin interview, political ranting and conspiracy theories, and lots of metal reviews? Also includes some SubG and comix stuff. (S-16r)

*****

SELECTED OOZE #6 ($2 from Bob Z., c/o Sarris Bookmarketing, 125 E. 23rd St. #300, New York, NY 10010): Punkture seems to be branching out a bit from downer poetry (though there's still some of that here): #6 also includes a travelogue and some individualist philosophy. But the heart is still the gritty art, lyrics and poems, that rub the reader's nose in the cruddy world we live in. New poems for a new age? (HL-20)

*****

THE SF CONVENTION REGISTER Winter 1988 ($1.50 CASH from Erwin S. Strauss, 4271 Duke St. #D-10, Alexandria, VA 22304): A listing of upcoming science fiction conventions, pure and simple. Well, not so simple, because it's extensively cross-referenced and includes bids as far in the future as 1994. Indispensable and unique in its field. (S-16r)

*****

SHADOWBOXING Vol. V #5-6 ($10/6 issues from 1337 W. Loyola, Chicago, IL 60626): SHADOWBOXING grows out of a determination to help the local arts scene. They publish poetry, art, and short stories and review Chicago theater and music performances. This is a nice-looking forum for one's first exposure; nothing really stands out from these two issues, but there are good solid writers who'll be heard from again. (S-16t)

*****

SHAMAN 49 (50 cents from William Dockery, 3226A River Ave., Columbus, GA 31904): Sort of a notebook of Dockery's life. Contains scraps of art, poetry, and some episodes of Demon House Theatre. This last is a tiny comic, 24 panels to the mini page, which reads like a soap opera. (M-8)

*****

SHEET METAL #1 ($2 from Jake Wisely, 2235 France Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55416): Jake, publisher of UNCLE FESTER, is expanding his media empire with this slick-covered offering. Inside there's a whole lot of metal, from Wendy O to the Meatmen to Anthrax to Possessed and more. Lots of pictures, columnists who have metallic opinions, and exuberance. Major problem: stories continued on another page that don't tell you where to turn. (S-20t)

*****

SHORT FUSE #26-27 ($1 (?) from Holden, PO Box 90436, Santa Barbara, CA 93190-0436): "A collective" endeavor, sort of an artists' apa. #26 is highlighted by a striking Pat Fish cover and a disturbing Jack Moskovitz story. Also included are poems, cartons, cut-ups, grafitti, and general madness. There's a strong Contragate sub-theme as well. #28 seems to branch even farther afield, with sheet music and talking tapeworms. (S-20)

*****

SHOW ME FREEDOM Vol. 2 #4 ($5/yr from 3910 Nara Dr., Florissant, MO 63033): A rather nice state Libertarian Party organ, with good solid news reporting on things like the national convention. (In case you haven't heard, ex-Congressman Ron Paul is running for the Libs this time around). Also plenty of opinion pieces, on general theory as well as current affairs. (T-8t)

*****

SHREDDED SLIME #7 ($2 from Jim Hofmann, PO Box 1067, Oxon Hill, MD 20745): Despite the heading "Our worst issue yet!", there's some good stuff buried in here -- though the No Trend interview isn't it. The talk with the Shakes comes off better, as does the Psychodrama and Traci Lords stuff. No attempt at comprehensiveness -- this is a pfanzine that just wants to trumpet a few good but ignored items from the wasteland and otherwise piss people off. (S-17r)

*****

SHRED OF DIGNITY #A-B (Donation from 370 Turk St. #227, San Francisco, CA 94102): A "Skater's Union Ragazine" -- yes, the skateboarders in SF have organized to keep from being banned. Meanwhile they're publishing all sorts of stuff - rad photos, ideas on where to skate when it's raining (like under freeways), repair and maintainence tips, and lots of oddball art. The union also sponsors events and urges people to "skate safe". (S-20)

*****

SH'WIPE C-D (50 cents (?) from Daniel F. Bradley, 551A Crawford St., TOronto, ONT M6G 3J9, CANADA): A mini-zine of poetry and artwork, quite similar to PUSH-MACHINERY in concept. Features concrete (and otherwise) poetry, drawings, and intriguing photos. A total of 26 weekly issues are planned. (M-4)

*****

SICK ($1 (?) from Remy Chevalier, PO Box 742, Westport, CT 06881): Remember the guy with the cow on the back of FF22? Well, that's Remy. This is a collection of his rants, illustrated with offensive clippings and collages. He's into rock festivals and meeting spaces, photovoltaics and gasohol, the New Age and the old movies. Not for the easily disturbed or confused, but if you want to change the world, he's got the plans. (D-20r)

*****

SID (50 cents (?) from PO Box 35457, Seattle, WA 98145-1457): A standalone mini from the EELSKIN COMIX crew. This one chronicles the career of little Sid, who grew up in London to form a famous punk band. Inappropriately cutesey-poo artwork and a ridiculous plot make this something to distress your punk friends with. (M-8)

*****

A SILVER LINING Vol. 2 #1 (22 cents postage from Sean Collins, PO Box 5238, Laurel, MD 20707): A U2 pfanzine. It's nowhere near as large as U2 USA, but it does have one overwhelming advantage -- frequency of appearance. Every ish contains tour notes, quotes and news about the band; #1 also includes an interview with Maryland band the Outcrowd and ratings of dog food commercials. (S-7)

*****

SIMPLE COOKING, Summer 1987 ($12/yr from Jackdaw Press, PO Box 622, Castine, ME 04421): John Thorne produces a newsletter that is dangerous to read -- because it makes me want to quit reviewing and start cooking. He talks about the settings for eating and cooking, the ingredients, the books, the people...all in a pleasant and evocatively mouth-atering manner. And of course there are recipes: Raspberry Cake, Oven-baked Corn Bread, Tomato & Corn Salad, and more. (S-12t)

*****

SIPAPU #35 ($4 from Noel Peattie, Rte. 1, Box 216, Winters, CA 95694): A small press review tuned for the working librarian (hardly surprising since Noel is one himself). #35 is a special issue, focusing on the small presses of California, arranged by region. There is pretty much no overlap with zines reviewed here in FF; these are the litmags and small book houses, not the punks and anarchists. But SIPAPU is open to all sorts of small press, and past issues have featured a much wider selection. Also contains news of the library profession as it relates to small presses. (S-24t)

*****

SKELETON QUARTERLY #3 (A couple of stamps from Raining House, PO Box 1452, Santa Cruz, CA 95061): A mini-sized zine of art and cryptic fiction. There's an overall apocalyptic tone, moderated by simple photos of contemplative people and the occasional piece clipped from another paper. (M-24t)

*****

SKYVIEWS #10 ($2 from PO Box 2473, Seattle, WA 98111): A digest of poetry and art that arrived looseleaf, along with a "Gorbachev for President in '88" bumper sticker. There's not much poetry in this issue, but there's a lively debate between various readers on the subject. The art comes from a mail art exhibition sponsored by the zine. Also features linkages to other mail art zines and some maunderings by well-known underground poets. (D-44t)

*****

THE SLAPDASH HACKERY FACTORY #5 ($1 from Carl Bettis, PO Box 32631, Kansas City, MO 64111): This is the "Lust" issue of their Seven Deadly Sins festival and indeed, most of the poetry and stories and jokes here are concerned with lust, or at least with screwing. There seem to be a lot of people finding highly erotic voices in the small press these days; maybe it's a reaction to society's swing in the other direction. Anyhow, Carl puts together a fine bunch of writers and artists to amuse and titillate. (D-32r)

*****

SLIMETIME #12-14 (50 cents from Steve Puchalski, 1108 E. Genesee St. #3, Syracuse, NY 13210): This, I would say, is one of the best of the gore-film reviews. Actually, Steve gets into more than just slasher movies: Japanese monsters, women in prison, and even "Surf Nazis Must Die" feature in #12. (The latter gets a bad review, which shows you he has some taste). And the reviews are funny and informative reading even if you don't spend all your spare dimes at the videotape store. "The Trip" and "Satan's Cheerleaders" are highlights in #13. (S-10)

*****

SMALL PRESS REVIEW #178-180 ($16/yr from Dustbooks, PO Box 100, Paradise, CA 95969): Just what the title says, a review of the small press. Editor Len Fulton and his crew keep up mainly with the literary and poetry markets, but all manner of small books wander through from time to time. Merritt Clifton writes a nice advice column for the self-publisher, others contribute review columns, and there are various specialized directories and such in the ads. The letters and editorials may be the best way to keep track of trends in the literary small press. (S-16t)

*****

THE SOCIALIST Oct. 1987 ($1/3 issues from 5502 W. Adams Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90026): A newsletter from the Socialist Party of California. While they do call for socialism, they emphasize working within the system and education and political campaigning as means for change. A mix of current political analysis and socialist theory. (s-10t)

*****

SOCIALIST ACTION Sept. 1987 (50 cents from 3435 Army St. #308, San Francisco, CA 94110): Will these people ever learn that every strike and labor action in this country is not a victory for socialism? Apparently not, because that's what their coverage concentrates on, along with leftist policy analysis. (T-16t)

*****

THE SOCIALIST STANDARD #994 (L5.50/12 issues from 52 Clapham High St., London SW4 7UN, ENGLAND): Socialism for the Brits, which means that they use a lot of fancy language while condemning elections that are just run-offs between the parties in power. Some analysis of the Middle East that didn't really tell me anything and a few odds and ends of UK politics round out the issue. (A4-20)

*****

SOL RISING Summer 1987 ($12/yr from 40 St. George St., Toronto, ONT M5S 2E4, CANADA): This is the newsletter of the Spaced Out Library, "the largest single collection of science fiction and fantasy maintained by a public library in North America." It chronicles the activities of the library and reports on publishing in SF and related fields, mostly in Canada. (S-12)

*****

THE SORCERER'S SCROLLS #25-26 ($1 from Tori Bergquist, PO Box 117, San Simon, AZ 85632): A monthly zine for the RPG crowd. Tori and friends range over a wide variety of gaming systems, including T&T, Car Wars, Call of Chthulhu, and more. Features include new rules and full scenarios, solo adventures, and general chit-chat and art. Fun Stuff. #26 opens with a stunning cover from S.S. Crompton and includes a bunch of strategy tips for Galactic Powwer. (D-40r)

*****

SOUL TWINKIES (50 cents (?) from Krowbar Krew Komix c/o Matthew Carr, 33 Lockerby Hill Rd., Lansing, NY 14850): A confused and confusing set of drawings and comics. The settings are vaguely surreal and punkoid, the messages are undeniably antiestablishment -- from punk to anarchist to NBAU. The overall effect is to turn reality into some sort of stinking joke. (S-12)

*****

SOUND CHOICE #8-9 ($2.50 from PO Box 1251, Ojai, CA 93023): A pfanzine that is agressively dedicated to defending and promoting indie music and keeping the major labels away from it. They take a lot of crap for this attitude, and the letters column of #8 is full of nasty comments. This doesn't stop the barrage of information on innovative use of tape, recording technology, recorded drama, underground music appreciation, and hundreds of record and tape reviews. #9 includes some eyewitness notes on Altamont and a Phil Ochs remembrance. (S-94t)

*****

THE SOUTH CAROLINA LIBERTARIAN Vol. XI #3 ($1 (?) from SCLP, PO Box 50643, Columbia, SC 29250): A small Libertarian Party newsletter that really doesn't stand out much for its coverage. The innovation here consists of a couple of inserts, model pamphlets for activists to pass around. One is on the initiative and referendum process; the other discusses the Libertarian program in general. (S-4t)

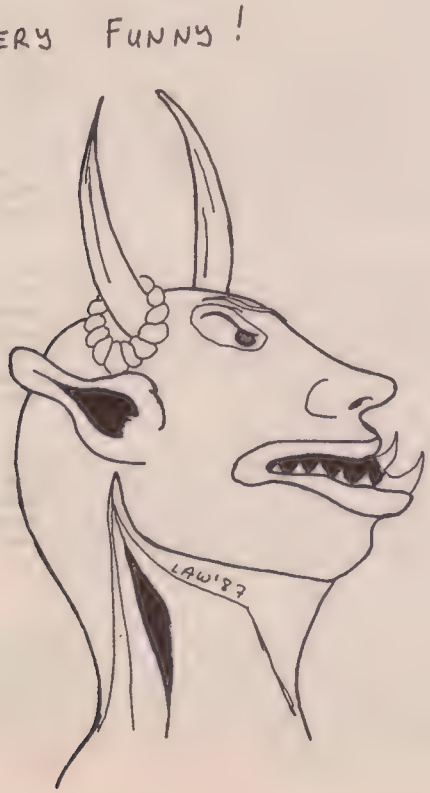
*****

SOUTHEAST ANARCHIST NETWORK NEWS #2 (Donation from Dialogue, 916 Euterpe, New Orleans, LA 70130): The folks from New Orleans to Raleigh are taking the lead in building a regional affinity network for the anarchist movement. As such, this is likely to be of interest to any anarchists in the region and not many others. Planned events include a couple of conferences and an expanded newsletter. (HL-4r)

*****

SOUTHERN LIBERTARIAN MESSENGER Vol. XVI #4-8 ($5/yr from Rt. 10 Box 52A, FLorence, SC 29501): Basically this is a clipping service, full of reprints from all sorts of newspapers. The basic themes are: the IRS is bad; the government is doing awful things; people are being suppressed; people are crazy. #6 contains extensive coverage of Dale Lowdermilk and NOT-SAFE. #7 discusses the awful effects of seat-belt laws. #8 is heavier on essays than usual, stirring stories of fighters for liberty in a screwy world. (S-14)

*****



THE SOUTH SOUND ALLIANCE Vol. 7 #10 ($15/yr from PO Box 921, Olympia, WA 98507): A New Age newspaper which is aware of both the personal and political aspects of the various movements out there. In addition they have a very nice looking pull-out calendar of local events. #10 discusses various trials and tribulations of the peace movement, drugging of psychiatric outpatients and (in an interesting crossover) prints an interview with Jello Biafra. (T-16t)

*****

SPEW AND REVIEW #32-33 (SASE from Bob Konshak, 1490 E. Ryan Ave., Maplewood, MN 55109): A broadside of humor and occasional social commentary. Bob is definitely on the margin and his views are often heretical. #32 has it in for over-commercialized holidays. #33 is the farewell issue; better write before sending for any more. And watch for a BEST OF anthology sometime next year. (S-2)

*****

SPIRAL #1 ($4 surface/$5 air from 3 King St., Glastonbury, Somerset BA6 9JY, ENGLAND): The successor to ANIMA, this is a pagan publication with some unique characteristics. Chief among these is their promotion of channeling as a means to spiritual knowledge. But they publish a lot more than this. Strongly represented in #1 is the idea of intuitive magic, a system without a system. Also notes on the Harmonic Convergence and occult fiction. (HL-48r)

*****

SPITTLE & PUKE ($5.87 from BVI-Psi c/o BVI Central, PO Box 4843, East Lansing, MI 48826-4843): Dull drawings and dull words designed to be socially unacceptable, and they are. The cartoons aren't funny and neither is the humor. And the price can't be for real, but they don't say that. (S-3)

*****

SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION #1 (50 cents (?) from Criterion, N5939 Judnic Rd., Rib Lake, WI 54470): Cover price is free, but be fair, send some postage at least. Rib Lake has a punk innovation for their scene: "Solocore". That means that the editor is all alone in the boonies without a band or anything to talk to. So instead this zine is made up of polemics and poetry and zine addresses and so on. Actually, it works out well; Criterion puts a lot of himself into these pages. (HL-20)

*****

SPOOKY PAWS #8 (50 cents & a stamp from Carah Productions, 833 1/3 N. Formosa, Hollywood, CA 90046): A fanzine for punk-rock cats, er, that is, a zine about cats that has strong punk overtones. Like, some of these cats (the feline variety) wear Mohawks. No cute cat stories here, just surrealism and catnip. (D-8)

*****

SPORADICAL #5-6 ($1 (?) from Anarchist Switchboard, 324 E. 9th St., New York, NY 10003): A loosely disorganized publication made up of flyers and rants from various anarchist grouplets in and around New York. In #5, the big topic seems to be marriage and monogamy (nobody's in favor), but other folks talk about good anarchist books, the latest martyrs to the cause, or ragging on the Constitution. (S-30)

*****

S.R.A.F. BULLETIN #101 ($1 from PO Box 1751, San Francisco, CA 94101): This anarchist federation/discussion group has fallen on hard times but isn't quite dead yet. There's still a few folks willing to chat in print -- and a few more willing to sling shit at whoever's standing near. A bit of an indictment of the state of the movement, SRAF may have some future as an organ of prisoner support and networking, but I sort of doubt it. (D-16r)

*****

STAR ROUTE Vol. 6 #1 ($10/yr from PO Box 1451, Redway, CA 95560): Hippiedom is still alive and well in some corners of the universe, though it's evolved to meet the eighties. This paper is one manifestation of what's left; there are articles about activism and living close to the land and local political squabbles and so on. But the best part is a series of oral histories of people from way back when; a fascinating glance at one of my own ideological roots. (T-24t)

*****

STAR*TECH Vol. 1 #8-10 ($1.50 from PO Box 26599, Tempe, AZ 85282): "The Real Astrology Magazine", this one claims to investigate only "intelligent, verifiable applications of the cosmic craft." Be that as it may, the real story seems to be that there's been a revolution in the field thanks to computer technology; all of the charts here are computer-generated and there's a mass of data easily available to work with. Topics include the natal chart of America, radio astronomy, and which software to buy. (S-24t)

*****

STORM WARNING #5 (50 cents from VVAW-AI, 4710 University Way NE #1612, Seattle, WA 98105): The newsletter of Vietnam Veterans Against the War, Anti-Imperialist, a group who see

the US as the agressor in Southeast Asia and elsewhere and are trying to keep history from repeating itself. They do a lot of outreach work to today's youth, and are doing their best to combat rampant Ramboism. Lots of ideas for anti-war publicity. (D-16r)

*****

STRANGE DAYS (SASE (?) from X. Sharks Despot, 2225 Montego Dr., Landing, MI 48912): A couple pages of strange stuff indeed. I guess you could call this deranged mail art. The major production here is a weird sex-war analysis of Contra funding, followed by a bit on the Moonie control of the government. (S-2)

*****

STRAWBERRY JAM (25 cents & a stamp from Carah Productions, 833 1/3 N. Formosa, Hollywood, CA 90046): Art by Carrie to words by James Fringe, publisher of (what else?) THE FRINGE. This is a strange little story about a pointless life and the off-the-wall means used to end it. (M-8)

*****

STREET #10 ($1.50 from PO Box 278, Cambridge, MA 02238): The good news is that this is a great alternative newspaper that focuses in on the plight of the homeless and distressed in our society. The bad news is that their constant snarking at the Boston PHOENIX gets a bit tiresome. But that can be overlooked, thanks to the inside dope on Bridgewater State Hospital, the Jack Stevenson interview, the guide to shelters and hotlines, and much more. A force to be reckoned with. (T-32t)

*****

THE STUMM CONNECTION #147-148 ($1 from Jim Stumm, PO Box 29, Hiler Branch, Buffalo, NY 14223): This is a spinoff from THE CONNECTION, a sort-of-Libertarian apa, comprised of Jim's own zines. As such, some of it is clear to outsiders and some quite opaque. Topics in #148 include financing a libertarian government and the ethics of not-voting. (L-2)

*****

THE SUBTLE JOURNAL OF RAW COINAGE #2-5 (Respectively $2, 50 cents, 75 cents and 32 cents, plus 25 cents postage from G. Huth, 715 Watkins Rd. #A9, Horseheads, NY 14845): Geof likes to play with words, and he preserves unusual ones like entomological specimens. Every once in a while he packages out a few to send out. #2 is a tiny spiral-bound thing with cullings from FINNEGAN'S WAKE. #3 is a broadside of "Soundwords". #4 is on "spillengs", purposeful mispellings, dressed up by bizarre computer typefaces. #5 comes handwritten on a set of paper tickets. Words are solicited for future editions. These are a cross betwixt a zine and an objet d'art.

*****

SUBURBAN VOICE #24 ($1 from Al Quint, PO Box 1505, Lynn, MA 01907): There's a lot of punk and indie music going on in Boston, and Al covers it in a solid though unflashy fashion. SV has all the standard pfanzine features: interviews, live, tape and zine reviews, a short editorial, letters and a "Best of" list for 1987. The photography is well done and the talks with Government Issue, Prong and Token Entry are interesting and informative. (S-48r)

*****

SUBURBAN YAWN #1 (50 cents & 39 cents postage from Tad Hirsch, 36 Claudet Way, Eastchester, NY 10709): A pretty good first pfanzine with a definite sense of humor. I particulary liked Tad's attempt to explain who should stay out of his scene for ideological incorrectness and the takeoffs on popular punk poetry themes. Also includes music and show reviews and some social commentary. Anger plus humor. (HL-20)

*****

SUDS 'N' STUFF Vol. 4 #3-4 ($1!(?) from Bunny Bosak, PO Box 6402, Oceanside, CA 92056): This is marked "for Members Only" and is a product of Beer Drinkers International. The focus, of course, is on beer: collecting the cans, making munchies to go with it, and most of all appreciating the taste. Each issue features a couple of beer reviews and a new collectible coaster. (L-6)

*****

A SUITABLE JOB FOR A WOMAN #3 ($1.50 from Sharon Rose, 203 Talley Rd., Chattanooga, TN 37411): Nicki Lynch is Sharon's co-editor for this zine devoted to women and mystery novels. It's a letterzine, composed of letters written by the subscribers. So the topics of discussion vary widely; female authors and female characters in mysteries remain the focus. After three issues it's off to a good start. (S-20)

*****

THE SURVIVOR Vol. 6 #7-8 ($10/yr from Kurt Saxon, PO Box 327, Harrison, AR 72601): Kurt is the author of the POOR MAN'S JAMES BOND (which is incidentally out in a new printing and can be ordered by your bookstore) and a survivalist who is really concerned with survival rather than politics. His paper reprints all sorts of shop hints, gunsmithing instructions, individualist inspirational literature, and plans for homemade weapons. Interesting stuff. Kurt also mail-orders various books, legal weapons and poisons. (T-16)

*****

SWEET & SWISHY Vol. 2 #7-12 ($1 from White Knight Productions, PO Box 656, Wautoma, WI 54982): This is basically for folks who like pictures of young girls (and occasionally young boys). Features photos of TV and movie celebrities, news clippings about sexual freedom and related topics, and occasional pro-freedom messages. Sometimes inexplicable stuff, like reprints from the Smithsonian News Service, show up as well. (S-11)

*****

THE SWEET RIDE #7-8 (50 cents from Randy Russell, 5414 Columbus Av., Sandusky, OH 44870): A fun-to-read journal of whatever Randy wants to print. #7 is a remembrance of the late Dag Nabbit, musician and man on the edge; it probably won't mean much unless you knew him or his work. #8 is chock full of odd things, rants and raves and cheap meals and Luke McGuff on the joys of music and a manifesto and work from a new art movement: the Mamaists, whose creative juices seem to be 90 proof. (D-16r)

*****

SWL July 1987 ($1 from American Shortwave Listeners Club, 16182 Ballad Ln., Huntington Beach, CA 92649): For shortwave listeners, this is a listing of things that have been heard from all over the world by club members. I don't see the fascination, but I'll bet most of these people have never read an issue of FF, so we're even. (D-44r)

*****

TACTICS OF THE MLL Vol. IV #3 ($1 from PO Box 1748, Long Beach, CA 90801-1748): The internal rabble-rousing organ of the Movement of the Libertarian Left, a group of dangerous anarchists who want to smash the state, preferably before next Tuesday. Right now they're getting all excited about fighting The War To Come (again). A good source of hardcore rhetoric. (S-4t)

*****

T, A PERSONAL ESSAY (44 cents postage OR $2.50 from TKA, 3021 N. Southport, Chicago, IL 60657): This mini does not explain the terrible Secret Meaning behind artist T. Kevin Atherton's first name. But it is sort of amusing, though not worth the secondary price. My copy had a picture of Tom Dewey tipped in for some reason. (M-8)

*****

TALK IS CHEAP #5 ($6/6 issues from PO Box 2296, Philadelphia, PA 19103): These folks seem pretty dedicated to providing an alternative forum rather than a single point of view; they've printed instructions on squatting and a blazing anti-squat letter. Other contents include a look at the dilution of the local alternative radio station by corporate hoo-hah, poems, and a guide to promoting rock gigs. (T-12t)

*****

THE TERRITORIAL HERALD Vol. VII #3/4 (75 cents from FTEC, PO Box 7075, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677): The newsletter of the Free Territory of Ely-Chatelaine and associated folks. Marc-Eric, the guy who runs the show, promotes household sovereignty as a freedom method. He can explain all this much better than I can if you write. Anyhow, most of this is news about the various kingdoms, together with plans for future publicity and philosophical writings. A strange variant of libertarianism. (HL-12r)

*****

THE TEXAS OASIS July 1987 ($1 (?) from Earth First!, PO Box 7292, University Stn., Austin, TX 78713): The newsletter of the Texas branch of the decentralized radical environmental organization Earth First! Most of this is reports on what's been up -- understandable, since planning for future civil disobedience and monkeywrenching is not the sort of thing one wants to spread around. (S-8t)

*****

THE TEXAS SF INQUIRER #22 ($2 from 613 Westridge, Duncanville, TX 75116): With #22, TSFI has taken a great leap forward into the past, switching to two-color mimeography on twiltone. And it looks great -- they must have sacrificed heavily to the mimeo gods. The highlight of this issue is a leisurely chat with William Gibson, who still seems a bit confused by his popularity. There's also a bunch of book reivews and some odds and ends. A real contender in the sfanzine field. (S-24)

*****

THIS IS WARR ($2.50 from Barb Warr, PO Box 10304, Olympia, WA 93502): A collection of "Comics from Dystopia" by Barb Warr, whose work has graced past (and maybe even the present) issues of FF (look for slugs). Fun stuff in a semi-depressing vein, including the near-legendary "We Don't Care Bears" and a selection of band flyers. "How to Milk a Snake" is one of the most disgusting cute-animal strips in existence. (S-36)

*****

THIS MONTH Vol. 53 #7-Vol. 54 #1 (On request from H&R, 401 E. Erie Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19134): A surplus and stuff catalog that is fun to read if you like tinkering at all. A good source for things like pumps, blowers, relays, guages and other industrial whatnot. Sometimes more expensive bargains appear; #1 includes Apollo workstations for $12,500 each. (S-40t)

*****

THE THOUGHT #50-52 ($8/12 issues from PO Box 3092, Orange, CA 92665): Fifty issues, the last three years without missing a month, is an achievement for any of us marginals. Ron Tobin and his crew are still going strong, discussing in generally philosophical terms everything from the cynicism that pops up in libertarian movements to the relationship between the RCP and anarchists. There are plenty of opinions here, and the one-true-wayism I once perceived is slowly shrinking. An interesting forum, though one I often disagree with (particularly when, as in #51, some of the essays are thinly veiled attacks on people Ron happens to disagree with). (S-20)

*****

THRILLHAMMER #1 (22 cents postage from Christopher Erin, PO Box 20548, Wichita, KS 67208): I'm not sure what the "et al" after Christopher's name in the credits means; this has the look of a one-man show. Though looking for contributions, all the pages in #1 are much alike; simple art flanked with short observations on people, the world, and the underground. (S-6)

*****

TIME WORM #11 ($1.40 & 56 cents postage from Sean Wolf Hill, 1922 Emerson St., Dayton, OH 45406): An open-ended forum for writings of all types. Most of what Sean prints is poetry and short stories, spread around in a loose punkoid layout. There's also various thoughts on the world, from the silly to the sublime. #12 is planned with a section on Deep Ecology. (S-20r)

*****

TOBACCO AND YOUTH REPORTER Vol. 2 #1 ($25/yr from STAT, PO Box 50039, Palo Alto, CA 94303): That's "Stop Teenage Addiction to Tobacco", and as you might guess, they're a single-issue group. This tabloid is full of horror stories about unfair advertising practices and what can be done to stop them. (T-16t)

*****

TOM GILL PREDICTS Vol. X #1 (SASE from 2477 Sycamore Ln. #E-6, Davis, CA 95616): TGP has been on vacation, but now Tom is back with a year-end broadside. #1 includes a top twenty song list compiled by watching people hum in public and a pick for Man of the Year. Watch for much more offbeat humor in 1988. (L-1)

*****

TOM TEENAGER STORIES FOR BOYS #1 (50 cents (?) from Matthew Carr, 33 Lockerby Hill Rd., Lansing, NY 14850): Pretty funny stuff, particularly if you are (or used to be) a teenaged boy. Lots of sex and dope and vandalism and partying and cars and other great stuff from our dissipated youth. The plot gets a bit thin at times, but smoke another joint and you'll never notice. (S-10)

*****

THE TORCH July 15-Nov. 14, 1987 (50 cents from RSL, PO Box 1288, New York, NY 10116): Newspaper of the Revolutionary Socialist League, printed in English and Spanish. They don't spend much time on the theory of socialism (though a series on Lenin has been running); instead, they put in their two cents worth on a wide variety of popular opposition issues, from immigration law to homosexual rights. Lately they seem to be courting the anarchists, for some odd reason. (T-16t)

*****

TRAJECTORIES Vol. 1 #2 ($12/yr from PO Box 49249, Austin, TX 7876): An ambitious new science fiction tabloid. The ambitious part is that they're including a bit of everything: SF stories, fanzines and BBS and music reviews, a convention calendar, gossip, author interviews, and even a full comic book (Thrillaminute Comics #2) bound inside. The new part is that thery's still pulling all of this together and looking for a winning format. There's something for everyone already, but it's a bit fragmented yet. (T-28t)

*****

TRANET #49 ($30/yr from PO Box 567, Rangeley, ME 04970): TRANET is a vital link in a network of people and groups dedicated to Appropriate/Alternative Technology. While there are many visions of AT (and not a few critiques), these folks are relatively non-judgmental. Instead of major policy articles, every issue contains a hundred or so blurbs on what members are doing, with suggestions on places to link up. A nice way to get involved with the rest of the world. (S-16t)

*****

TRANSLUCENT LETHARGY #9 ($1 from Joel Davis, PO Box 780334, Oklahoma CIty, OK 73713): A small pfanzine with a well-done two-color cover. Inside there's a mail interview with DOA, one with Philadelphia's EAB, and some record and zine reviews, plus survey results. Looks like they don't have much of a local scene to talk about. (HL-20r)

*****

TRUST #9 (3 DM from Armin Hofmann, Linkeweg 14, 7270 Nagold-Hochdorf, WEST GERMANY): A slick-cover hardcore zine with lots of photos and lots of interviews -- this time they talk to Henry Rollins, Swans, DRI and Social Unrest, among others. Of course, it's entirely in German, so it's a good thing there are lots of pictures and familiar graphics. A pretty solid-looking effort. Also reviews records and tapes from all over. (A4-60r)

*****

TWIN CITIES GAZE #45 ($12/12 issues from 12 W. 26th St., Minneapolis, MN 55404): A newspaper for the area's gay & lesbian community that tries to cover everything and succeeds pretty well. They handle political reporting, the local social scene, personals, and even larger social concerns. Also includes a directory of local gay businesses. (T-20t)

*****

TWIN TOWN JOURNAL #1 ($4/yr from 1405 W. Jessamine #102, St. Paul, MN 55108): These people are taking the shotgun approach to publishing success: put in some of everything and hope for an audience. So the premiere issue includes cartoons, fiction, non-fiction (about battered women and the disappearance of Jimmy Hoffa), poetry, and satire -- and I may have missed something. They missed having a direction. (T-24t)

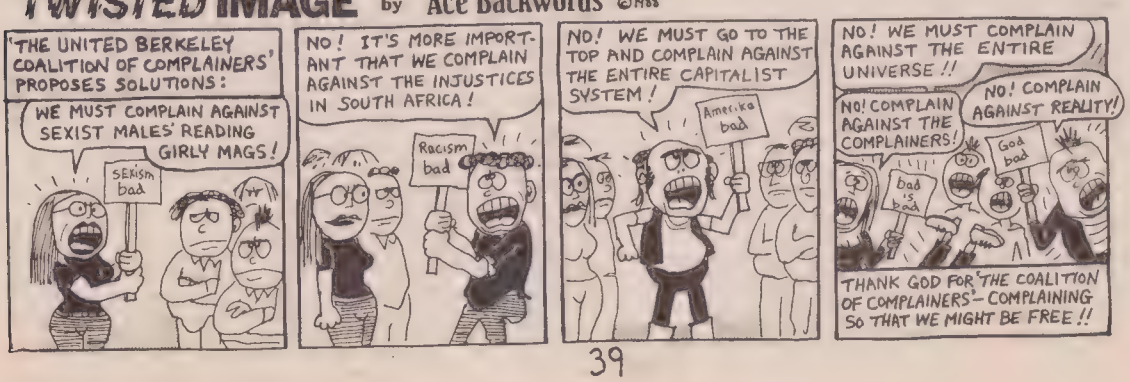
*****

TWISTED IMBALANCE ($1 (?) from Art Decco, PO Box 12504, Raleigh, NC 27605): TI has gotten graphically interesting, with multi-colored printing and a slick cover. Inside you get the Church of the SubGenius, Class War, a visit to England, animal rights, feminism, the military and a lot more. Sort of like having the whole world sliced up into skewed sections and tossed in a blender, with a healthy leavening of good humor. TI will warp your mind in ways you can't even conceive. (S-24)

*****

TWISTED TISSUES TALES FOR TEENS (50 cents (?) from Charles Pinion, PO Box 14775, University Stn., Gainesville, FL 32604): Violently strobing black-and-white art with a message or too (including "Most Adults are Lying to You"). The style is almost agressively confrontational, seemingly the product of deep-seated neuroses. (M-16)

*****


TWISTED IMAGE by Ace Backwords ©nss
'THE UNITED BERKELEY COALITION OF COMPLAINERS' PROPOSES SOLUTIONS:
WE MUST COMPLAIN AGAINST SEXIST MALES' READING GIRLY MAGS!
SEXism bad
NO! IT'S MORE IMPORTANT THAT WE COMPLAIN AGAINST THE INJUSTICES IN SOUTH AFRICA!
Racism bad
NO! WE MUST GO TO THE TOP AND COMPLAIN AGAINST THE ENTIRE CAPITALIST SYSTEM!
Amer.ka bad
NO! WE MUST COMPLAIN AGAINST THE ENTIRE UNIVERSE!!
NO! COMPLAIN AGAINST THE COMPLAINERS!
NO! COMPLAIN AGAINST REALITY!
God bad
bad is bad
THANK GOD FOR 'THE COALITION OF COMPLAINERS'- COMPLAINING SO THAT WE MIGHT BE FREE!!

UNCLE FESTER #13 ($2 from Festering Publications, 2235 France Ave. S, Minneapolis, MN 55416): Jake Wisely is going full speed ahead here, with tons of record reviews (he says he's going to cut down) and killer art from the likes of Sloane and Gaither. There's also great interviews in #13: Handsome Dick Manitoba, COC, Electric Love Muffins, and more. Local Minneapolis bands don't get slighted either, and Heavy Metal fans are directed to the companion SHEET METAL zine. A great package. (S-32r)

*****

THE UNDERGROUND FILM BULLETIN 6 ($5 from PO Box 1589, New York, NY 10009): A thick puppy dedicated to the "Cinema of Transgression": those new movies coming out of somewhere beneath NYC that are too sexually violent for the tastes of the proper avant-garde. For some reason these Super-8 classics are becoming Forbidden Fruit, and so the interviews with their actors and producers here are heavily defensive in spots. Lots to look at, but alas, the photocopy production does no justice at all to the film stills. Features Nick Zedd, John Spencer, Lung Leg, and lots more. (S-60)

*****

THE UNDERGROUND GRAMMARIAN Vol. 11 #6-8.($15/yr from R. Mitchell, PO Box 203, Glassboro, NJ 08028): This guy won't trade but I've arranged to get his stuff anyhow because it's worth plugging. He's willing to take unpopular educational stands and defend them: that values are not all relative, that changing black sheep to white sheep is not a good attack on racism, and that pocket calculators do not relieve us of the necessity to learn math, for example. (D-8t)

*****

UNDERGROUND SURREALIST MAGAZINE #2 ($3 from Mick Cusimano, PO Box 2565, Cambridge, MA 02238): This is mostly a vehicle for Mick to show off his cartooning talents and those of his cronies. Mick's are among the best, although their distorted primitivism is hard to get used to, and the couplets heading each panel are often a bit cryptic. Subjects in #3 include the Boston Bobalon, Jack Kerouac, delinquency, and other fun things. (S-24)

*****

UNFUNNY UNBUNNY IN SALON, IT'S BIN GOOD T'KNOW YA! (66 cents from TKA, 3021 N. Southport, Chicago, IL 60657): The rabbitoid character who stars in this mini looks vaguely like a blown-up condom with a problem. The story isn't much either, unless you care for things like interminable Russian novels. Give it a miss unless you're a minicomics fiend. The bonus "comicule" (about the size of a postage stamp) on urine testing is pretty funny, though. (M-28)

*****

UNFUNNY UNBUNNY IN THE TORTOISE 'N' THE UNBUNNY (25 cents & a stamp from TKA, 3021 N. Southport, Chicago, IL 60657): In this mini you can see even more clearly that UU has a few problems, notably a lack of expressions. On the other hand he's definitely nicer than that old tortoise. Better than the mini directly above. (M-8)

*****

THE UNICORN Vol. XI #1-2 ($1 from The Rowan Tree Church, PO Box 8814, Minneapolis, MN 55408): A small pagan newsletter which is notable mainly for consistently high-quality art, all on pagan (or at least fantasy) themes. They've also been running series on herbal and Tarot lore, letters from readers, and general pagan stuff. No high-power esoterica, just friendship and study. #2 celebrates ten years of continuous publication with a short history of the zine and some reprints from past issues. (S-10)

*****

UNI-FORCE #3 ($2.25 from Mike Sawickis, 307 Lindell Dr. #1, Normal, IL 61761): A pfanzine pretty much devoted to metal and the surrounding sub-genres (Mr. Bungle is described as "a funkadelic thrashing circus ska ensemble"). Mostly short interviews, with a few show and demo reviews. In #3 we have Fraticide, Death, Cryptic Slaughter and lots more. (S-30r)

*****

UNSCENE COMIX #5-6 (22 cents postage from Chris Murphy, PO Box 77, Lebanon, KY 40033): A slapped-together little zine with pointless comix from artists who generally have one thing in common: they can't draw. About the only exception to this is Carrie, so if you're into punk rock art, this might be worth risking a stamp on. Otherwise, forget it. (D-8)

*****

THE UPRIGHT OSTRICH Vol. VI #10-Vol. VII #1 ($25/yr from PO Box 11691, Milwaukee, WI 53211): This Constitutionalist zine has been narrowing its focus of late, concentrating on the actions of the criminal justice system in getting dissenters off the streets and into the jails. Naturally, they see a lot of problems here, and do their best to get out information on any innovative defense that might work against the Federal tyrants. It's all wrapped up in a nice layout with plenty of sardonic ostrich art by Goot. (S-15t)

*****

URBAN DECAY #2-3 ($2 from 4500 Casco Ave. S, Edina, MN 55424): Another pfanzine of mainly interviews, these mostly with middling-big names: #2 includes DRI, 7 Seconds, MDC, SNFU and more this issue, plus a couple of local bands. Comes with a free zine sticker. #3 is a lot fatter with a better look, and includes pages on protests staged by skaters and anarchists as well as interviews with Suicidal Tendencies, COC, and Boneless Ones. (S-52t)

*****

URGL-ORP #13 ($1 from Nicole, PO Box 2541, Stn. D, Ottawa, ONT K1P 5W6, CANADA): Here's one we haven't seen for a while, and I'm glad it's back. This is sort of a concerned anarchist thought forum. In #13, there's the most comprehensive & informative birth control article I've seen in a long time, more notes on vegetarianism, and some information on the Gilman Street Project, a punk club in San Francisco. Fun and interesting anarchy in real life. (S-34)

*****

URP (50 cents (?) from Jeff Gaither, 7339 St. Andrew Sq. Rd. #10, Louisville, KY 40214): A collaborative minicomic with Roy Tompkins. If you know their styles, then you know this book: a gruesome collection of eyeballs, stiches, bones, vomit, pointy things and the other accessories of the properly disgusting monster. (M-8)

*****

VAMPIRE (SASE from 13848 Methuen Green, Dallas, TX 75240): A mini-artzine from the mind behind PRESENTS OF MIND. It's a collection of small collages featuring vampires, Hitler's pregnancy, aghast-looking women, and other images of wonder and confusion. (M-8)

*****

VAR TUFA #2 ($1 or a few stamps from Bill, 647 W. Foothill #126, Upland, CA 91786): A pfanzine that doesn't really spend a lot of space on music (one interview with Blast, a few record reviews) but instead devotes itself to the scene or lifestyle. Thouhgts on the demise of the LA hardcore scene, junior high porno stories, and tales of the Upland police grace this issue. Cool collaged backgrounds with lots of screwy art. (T-16r)

*****

VEGETARIAN VOICE Vol. 14 #1-2 ($12/yr from North American Vegetarian Society, PO Box 72, Dolgeville, NY 13329): A coalition of veggies from all over produces this tabloid. It's mainly inspirational and outreach stuff, but some food information does make it in. There are also lots of news notes about local chapters and conferences. Pretty heavy-handed at times, but where else would I have found out that Polysorbate 60 was an animal product? (T-24t)

*****

VEJ'S PAL, FUT PHUTFUT (44 cents from TKA, 3021 N. Southport, Chicago, IL 60657): This is sort of stand-up comedy in a minicomic package. Some of it is funny, some not, but at least there's something to laugh at. (M-12)

*****

VELOCITY #9 ($15 from Christian Herman, 4350 McPherson, St. Louis, MO 63108-2706): This is essentially an apa for mail-artists, concrete poets, and others interested in playing with images and words. It's quite a brick, with contributions from many prominent underground artists: John Bennett, Alterior Facial Mandala, Minoy, Pat Fish, Bob Grumman, and many more -- about 40 in all. Beautiful covers by Pat FIsh,

plus a special "Velocity Annex" section featuring the complexly overlaid work of Homer Springer, Jr. All perfect bound -- an underground coffee table book. Send an SASE for details on contributing or back issues. (S-95)

*****

VICTORY MUSIC REVIEW Vol. 12 #10-Vol. 13 #1 ($15/yr from PO Box 7515, Bonney Lake, WA 98390): All kinds of Northwestern easy-going music get space here, anchored by an extensive calendar of Seattle/Tacoma area performances. They tend towards folk, ethnic, womyn's and other neglected genres, but touch a lot of bases. A central point in a strong independent music community. Also lists other publications of similar mind, which tend not to overlap my listings. (S-20t)

*****

VIDEO CLONES (50 cents (?) from PO Box 15444, Cleveland, OH 44115): Mail art that seems to be made with a combination of photocopy and video-scanning techniques, and probably some computer imaging. Overlaid with multiple rubber stamps. Distorted faces rub elbows, so to speak, with distorted words. (D-12)

*****

VIDEO VOICE #3-4 (22 cents postage from Timothy Paxton, MPO Box 67, Oberlin, OH 44074-0067): As far as I know this is a new idea: a small zine concentrating on movies that have just come out on video in a strictly local area. Tim does mostly reviews, but these are wider than most vidzines': straight drama and kidvid are given more coverage than the gore movies most video journals concentrate on. (D-12r)

*****

THE VILLAGE IDIOT Autumn 1987 ($4 from Mother of Ashes Press, PO Box 135, Harrison, ID 83833-0135): Subtitled "The Business of Poets" and sub-subtitled "Civilian Casualties", this is a lovingly-crafted collection, high on the look and feel scale. What's inside is nice too, with the poets being given enough room to develop their thoughts and enough whitespace to highlight them. What stands out for me, though, is the second half of the book, where 8 short stories vie for attention. The common thread seems to be that of people in trouble -- with the world, with their business, with video games. All the writers put a lot of work into their craft, and it shows. The final winner for me, by a narrow margin, is William Harrel's "Then, I Slept", a tale of drug-dealing mania and love. (S-56t)

*****

THE VILLAGE NOIZE #3 ($1.40 from Chris Bunkley, 89-90 213 St., Queens Village, NY 11427): Chris and co-editor Eric Wielander have got a pretty good effort going here, intelligent band interviews (well, as intelligent as you can get talking to people like Damage and Sheer Terror) with a few choice photos and reviews. I'm particularly impressed by their willingness to include bands from all over the political spectrum rather than trying to walk a party line. (S-16)

*****

VIRGINIA LIBERTY Vol. 4 #4/5-6 ($10/yr from LPVA, PO Box 28263, Richmond, VA 23228): This one had a short hiatus as the editor got overwhelmed, but they're back with fairly good coverage of the LP Presidential nominating convention. Aside from the convention, the main feature here is reprinted letters from major papers, showing that at least some Libertarians in the area spend a lot of time writing. (T-8t)

*****

VISIGOTH'S QUARTERLY Vol. 13 #13 (Trade/Contribution or SASE from Martin Billheimer, 2778 Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60647): A complex and unlikely put-on zine. Made up of screwy pics and endless handwritten tiny print, this is sort of a men's mag for men who like to run around and break things. Checks out candidates for the Antichrist, serializes strange stories, and puts forth a Visigoth candidate for any handy election. (S-8)

*****

THE VOICE OF ZEWAM #6-7 ($1.75 from Brendan Donegan, PO Box 196, Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522): A zine dedicated to the work of Labradorian Indian writer Zewam Amola, and others inspired by her work. Inasmuch as that work is rather surreal, this zine tends in that direction also, with poetry from Misha and T. Winter-Damon setting the mood for #6. There's also strange art, a few music reviews, and clippings on Native American affairs. #7 announces the termination of the zine's relationship with The Acolytes of Amola and produces a long sound-poem from Geof Huth. (S-24)

*****

VOODOO CHILD Vol. 1 #11 ($1 from JIMI, PO Box 374, Des Plaines, IL 60016): Newsletter of the Jimi Hendrix Information Management Institute. These people are fanatics, gloating lovingly over having twenty different bootlegs of the same song. They also talk a lot about the careers of musicians who played with or were influenced by Jimi, and offer various Hendrix rarities for sale. (S-8t)

*****

WAHF-FULL 19 (The Usual from Jack Herman, Box 272, Wentworth Building, University of Sydney, AUSTRALIA 2006): "WAHF" is fannish for "We Also Heard From" -- a list of people whose letters one didn't print. Jack has a WAHF list, but he also has pages and pages of letters from Big Name Fans, some personal thoughts on America and Americans, movie reviews, fannish writing about cats, and more. A nice package that is scheduled to go out of business with #20, alas. (A4-36)

*****

THE WARD REPORT 9/10/87 ($45/yr from 405 Shrader St., San Francisco, CA 94117): Sort of the "official" word on indie music, put out by the Western Association of Radio Disk Jockeys. Their major service is to provide charts for rock clubs and progressive radio. They also review new releases and talk to important people in the indie world. But like most industry papers, they're expensive. (S-16t)

*****

THE WASHINGTON REPORT ON MIDDLE EAST AFFAIRS Vol. VI #6-8 ($2 from PO Box 53062, Washington, DC 20009): It's fairly popular in some quarters to claim that the American media is biased for Israel and against the Arabs. Whatever the truth of this, WR is doing everything it can to tilt the balance in the opposite direction. They dig up stories on Israeli military excesses, Jewish influence on Congress, and good things the arab states have done, and package them all up with a medley of political cartoons and books for sale. #7 contains a careful look at the forced closing of the Washington Palestinian office. (S-32t)

*****

WAX TOMCAT 2-4 (50 cents from 1515 Melanie Ln., Phenix City, AL 36867): This seems to be an intensely personal mini, devoted to getting scary feelings and thoughts on paper and wrapping them in a veneer of portraitish pictures. Jack Ruby, Jesus Christ, and the loneliness of life all vie for space in the spotlight. (M-8)

*****

WEIRD SMUT COMICS #2 ($3.25 from John A. Mozzer, PO Box 180224, Brooklyn, NY 11218-0003): Yes, it is indeed. There's nothing to soothe the allegedly moral majority here, and no safe sex either -- just a lot of folks getting off in various kinky ways. From the opening gal who gets to the President to the closing orgy featuring the Sextraterrestrial, this is designed to entertain the pubescent male of your choice. B&W interiors, color covers. (S-32)

*****

WE THE PEOPLE #29-30 ($3 from Mike Wolff, PO Box 52113, Houston, TX 77052): A political apa in which most members use current events as a springboard to philosophical discussions, instead of concentrating only on theoretical matters. This seems to be encouraged by the editorial reprinting of a reasonable amount of material from other publications to start things off, followed by a bunch of reasonably well-mannered debaters. No one here is too far off the liberal-to-conservative spectrum of contemporary politics, but no one swallows the official line on everything either. It's nice to read a debate between relatively common positions instead of the esoteric varieties of anarchy I usually see. (S-10l)

*****

WET SEX (50 cents (?) from Scott Miller, PO Box 375, Bradford, MA 01830-0375): An outspoken minizine that's mainly dedicated to reviews. Scott talks about movies from Brazil to Candy Goes to Hollywood, magazines from Cosmopolitan to a dozen pfanzines, and even crams in some live reviews. There's also a few disgusting dirty pics and some random art. (M-12)

*****

WHA-A-AM #9 ($1.50 from PO Box 170226, San Francisco, CA 94117): A magazine for Mods. The original Mods were in Britain decades ago, but now they're resurging in the Bay Area and elsewhere. Lots of news about scooters, cool fashions for the well-dressed guy or gal, and music for Mods. A social institution that must be seen to be believed. (S-32t)

*****

WHAT WAVE #14 ($4 from 44 Langarth St. East, London, ONT N6C 1Z1, CANADA): Garage rock for one and all. This pfanzine includes a tape with 24 bands, mostly of that genre, though there are excursions into other musical backwaters. The printed coverage is mostly interviews and feature stories: Junior Gone Wild, The Fourgiven, Plan 9, Tav Falco, Deja Voodoo and more in this issue. Also includes surf music, pro wrestling, and nifty art and layout. A real bargain in the multimedia department. (S-44r & tape)

*****

WHICH DR.? #1 ($3.75 from Kendra Usack, 12256 Turkey Wing Ct., Reston, VA 22091): A new zine dedicated to Dr. Who. Kendra says she wants to publish some romantic/erotic adventures of the Doctor, although there aren't any in this first issue. There are a couple of stories featuring

characters I surmise are familiar to Who fans, art by Kevin Duncan, a word search and some ads for other zines. (S-50)

*****

WHY MUSIC SOCKS? #3 ($3 from Frank Kogan, 625 Ashbury #11, San Francisco, CA 94117): This is rapidly developing into an apa about indie music, mainstream music, music fanzines, and socks -- among other things. Frank is promoting heavy discussions about what people like (or hate) and why, and what (if anything) can be done about it, as well as more frivolous talk. Some relatively big names in the indie music scene drop in here, and even relative musical idiots, like yours truly, have a few things to say. Get one and join the fun. (S-55)

*****

THE WICCAN VOICE #1 ($2 from Marjorie Talarico, PO Drawer 417, Oceanside, CA 92054): A new "Mystical Newsletter Dedicated to Enlightenment", this one unfortunately left me cold. It's mainly reprints from Marjorie's fiction and creative writing publications, together with some fresh poetry and an introduction to the Tarot. (S-12)

*****

WIRED #1 (50 cents from TKA, 3021 N. Southport, Chicago, IL 60657): A collaboration between T. Kevin Atherton and Carole Sobocinski, this is sort of a supermarket tabloid writ small. Best parts are the ad for liposuction ("cooking everything in YOUR OWN FAT!") and the John de Lorean song page. Pretty wedged. (M-8)

*****

WITNESS FOR PEACE NEWSLETTER Vol. 4 #4-5 (Donation from PO Box 567, Durham, NC 95060): WFP is an organization dedicated to bringing peace to Latin America by imposing their own principles and bodies in the war going on. In addition, they mobilize their members for political action in the US. Naturally, the focus is on the situation in Nicaragua; there's much documentation of Contra actions in these issues. (S-16t)

*****

WOMEN'S SKILLS AND RESOURCE EXCHANGE (Donation from PO Box 20806, Seattle, WA 98102): Presumably you know that mothers are an important force for change in places like El Salvador and Honduras. What you may not know is that there is a group of American women standing in solidarity with them, ready to put their own asses on the line when invited. This is that group, and they need members and support. Send a buck for a copy of their paper and find out more. (T-12)

*****

WOODSWOMEN NEWS Spring/Summer 1987 ($15/yr from 2550 Pillsbury Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55404): Women on the arctic icecap, women climbing mountains, women solo whitewater rafting on the Colorado River -- these are just a few of the activities sponsored by Woodswomen. They're an organized group that builds self-image in women by getting them into challenging outdoor situations. Lots of good inspirational prose in every issue, from women who've been there. (T-20t)

*****

WORM Vol. 2,3 ($1 from 2228 S. El Camino Real, San Mateo, CA 94403): This is an attempt to network with the real cyberpunks out there, bringing together hacker culture and trendy SF to start...something. Not much content so far. The best part of 2,3 was Aiken Drum's short story about a computerized future gone plop. (S-18)

*****

WPE CALL LETTER Vol. 4 #3 ($1 from Great Circle Shortwave Society, 2 Whits Ct., Newport News, VA 23606): A zine for the shortwave listener from the 1950s and 60s. Mainly nostalgia, with reminiscences and schematics of tube-based receivers, along with notes on where it might be fun to listen today. (D-16r)

*****

WRESTLING OBSERVER NEWSLETTER 11/2/87 - 1/15/88 ($5/4 issues from Dave Meltzer, PO Box 1228, Campbell, CA 95009-1228): All the news you ever wanted about pro wrestling in its various incarnations. Dave prints lots of gossip and match results, plus argumentative readers' letters. The 11/23 issue recounts a series of bad decisions and crises that seem to be alienating fans from a lot of the major promotions. 11/30 includes comments on Japanese Women's and Russian amateur wrestling. The 12/7 issue has the "Turkey Awards" for the big Thanksgiving Day matches. 12/21 is an extra large ish reporting on Dave's vacation in Japan and the wrestling scene there. 1/15 includes predictions for upcoming major media spectacles. (S-10r)

*****

WRITERS EXCHANGE 7 ($5/yr from RSVP Press, PO Box 394, SOciety Hill, SC 29593): A quarterly zine for aspiring writers. WE runs poetry, short prose and hsiku contests, plus makes some attempt to point people towards markets that are looking for work. They also sell various handbooks and anthologies. (HL-6)

*****

WRITER'S INFO Vol. 3 #11-12 ($1 from Linda Hutton, PO Box 2377, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814): A collection of inspiring thoughts for the beginning writer. Most of the pieces are no more than a few paragraphs long, and give basic hints on writing or tell inspiring success stories. Linda also keeps track of writing contests and prints a list each month. (L-6)

*****

X-CLAIM #3 ($1 (?) from Chuck Miller, 20 Northview Dr., Somers Point, NJ 08244): A pfanzine with a pretty narrow point of view -- young male -- and a particularly offensive attitude towards women. Interviews with Necracedia, Justice League, Failsafe and a few more, plus some poetry, but nothing to make this really worth reading. Nice skull-laden cover. (S-38)

*****

X-RAY #1-3 (On Request from PO Box 1159, Wilmington, DE 19899): An ambitious new attempt at critical coverage of the fine arts, very widely defined: from Jackie Gleason to Butthole Surfers, from the New Music Seminar to art-gallery installations. Editor Tom Watson concentrates on local goings-on and the high points of culture since about the 1950s. The format is attractive, the coverage is intelligent, and the selection of topics is definitely eclectic. One never knows what lies around the page corner. (S-32t)

*****

YHOS 41 (The Usual from Art Widner, 231 Courtney Ln., Orinda, CA 94563): A sfanzine that comes in a variety of colors thanks to the toner cartridges in Art's copier. There's a lot here to read: big pieces on the future evolution of man (reprinted from a 1942 FAPA mailing) and the Dark Knight Batman series; surely such a range is seldom found anywhere. Art also features a lettercol with fancy letterheads and all too little of his own commentary. (HL-36)

*****

YOKO ONLY #19 ($2 from 61 Middle Dr., Toms RIver, NJ 08753): A fanzine for people who want to read all that they can about Yoko Ono. I find this to be pretty unfathomable, but I'm sure the market is there. Most of #19 is a report on a 1974 tour of hers in Japan, backed with many previously-unpublished photos. Unfortunately the photocopying doesn't do justice to them. (S-14)

*****

YOUTH CONNECTION Vol. 1 #4 ($5 students/$10 others from Terry Inman, 3910 Nara Dr., Florissant, MO 63033): Newsletter of the Libertarian Students Network, an organization that doesn't seem to be off the ground yet. Terry argues persuasively that there are freedom issues of particular interest to students, and analyzes some in every issue -- #4 talks about subverting the indoctrination process. But I notice Terry is still doing most of the writing. (S-4t)

*****

Z MISCELLANEOUS Vol. 1 #4 ($3 from PO Box 20041, New York, NY 10028): So big it's quite overwhelming. If it's written, it's fair game for these folks, who publish everything from poetry to short stories to a review of CD players. A few gems stand out here and there -- snide thoughts about modern poetry, a cartoon about geese, Ed Mycue's thoughts on kangaroos, Al Manachino's series -- but overall, it's just Too Much. A great bargain in the small press. (S-132)

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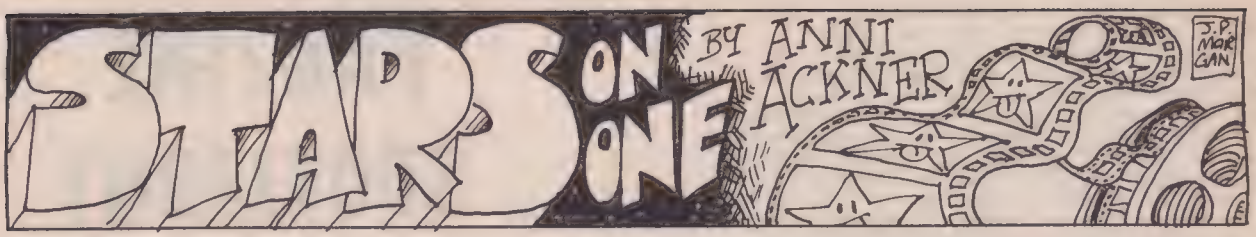


Well, I'd like to be able to tell you that, during my recent and prolonged absence (in case you didn't happen to notice, I've been missing from these august pages for the last couple of months), I was putting all the time that would normally be devoted to the writing of this column (a most arduous and time-consuming task, I assure you) to good use, gathering new information, honing my literary skills, studying the works of the Masters of Visual Arts Criticism, all with an eye towards bringing you a better and more worthwhile column. I'd like to be able to tell you that my days were spent in viewing and reviewing the classics in the fields of television, film, and theatre, taking suitable courses, having serious and heartfelt discussions with the acknowledgedd Greats, and working, working, working to improve the product I set before you. Boy Howdy, would I love to tell you all this but, unfortunately, not a word of it is true.

Oh, I haven't exactly been frittering away my time off, mind you. In fact, I'll have you know that I was a very busy girl during my time away. I mean, for instance, there was Gelsey Kirkland's autobiography to read, for one thing (and it does beat all the way not one writer of my acquaintance labours under the delusion that he or she can dance Giselle, but all of a sudden everybody who's ever set foot inside the New York City Ballet seriously believes that he or she can just sit down and write a book), and I was a good three quarters of the way through it before it hit me that neither Gelsey nor I was really having a very good time. Then there was Bruce Babbitt, a man for whom I hold the greatest admiration, but who has kept me constantly occupied recently in writing letters to his campaign staff in a thus far futile attempt to explain why "President Babbitt" simply doesn't sound right to those of us who were forced to sit through American Literature 101. The actually went and made a movie out of that V.C. Andrews classic FLOWERS IN THE ATTIC, and, of course, I had to go and see that a couple of times, though there's really nothing there on which I can report (those who read the book know precisely what I mean. Those who haven't read the book may sleep snugly in their beds tonight, untroubled by thoughts of people making absolute fortunes turning out stuff like this); I got all wrapped up in the Pro Bowlers' Tour, I've had to lay in a supply of munchies in preparation for the Winter Olympics (watching people slide down snow on various pieces of hardware always gives me an appetite), and I can distinctly remember at least two occasions when I washed the bathroom floor, so you can see that I haven't exactly been sitting around here twiddling my thumbs. On the other hand, none of this frantic activity goes very far in making a new column, now does it?

I can't even, in all honesty, say that I've returned to my labors refreshed and relaxed and brimming with a new attitude towards my task because, by the sort of coincidence that makes one believe in all those conspiracy theories one hears bandied about these days, I make my come-back in these pages at exactly the time of year when I feel most like curling up in my rocking chair, staring vacantly at either nothing in particular or the cat -- which sometimes amounts to the same thing -- and forgetting that I ever learned to write in the first place. While, thanks to the wonders of magazine-lag, you will no doubt be dying your Easter eggs and frolicing in the spring grass when you read this, as I write it, it's the dreary end of an extremely dreary January, there is ice in the streets, dirty snow in the gutters, Christmas is over, Memorial day is too far away to even begin to contemplate and, frankly, I feel as though I have just been forced to spend the last several months making polite dinner conversation with Sylvester Stallone and all of the current crop of MTVeejays. In short, I am in no fit mood, and I mean, really.

The worst of it is, when I get into a Mood like this -- and it seems I get into them more and more lately, a fact that I attribute at least in part to Joan Rivers being made the permanent center square -- I start to worry about things about which I have no business at all worrying.

This is not to say, naturally, that I don't spend a good part of the time worrying in any case -- I come from a long line of worriers, so it's more or less in my blood. My mother once spent eight years, on and off, worrying about Adlai Stevenson. She thought he wasn't getting enough protein or something -- but, normally, the things I worry about are what you might call The Big Issues, things like what horrible flaw in his psychological make-up is causing Griffin Dunne to single-handedly flush his career down the toilet, and why it is you never see a fat person in a car commercial. When I get into this frame of mind, however, I find myself spending extraordinary and totally unwarranted amounts of time worrying about things that can only be fairly called Little, and perhaps even Niggling.

To give you an example, the other evening I spent three perfectly good hours -- hours that could just as easily been spent cleaning the oven burners or learning decoupage -- worrying about BEAUTY AND THE BEAST.

I suppose I ought to make it perfectly clear, so that you won't think I'm making the following remarks out of any intrinsic meanness of spirit (not that I don't have meanness of spirit, but I just don't happen to be exercising it towards this particular programme) that I give the creators of BEAUTY AND THE BEAST a tremendous amount of credit. It isn't often, in these times of cop shows and detective shows and more cop shows and detective shows, with an occasional doctor show tossed in, that anyone has the courage to do something different and, whatever else you can say about BEAUTY AND THE BEAST, it certainly starts out by being different. There's this guy, you see, who possesses the soul of a poet, the brain of an Einstein, and the language abilities of Thomas Wolfe but who, less fortunately, also happens to look as if he escaped from a road company of CATS (and here I take issue with the make-up people; if Vincent, as he's called, is supposed to be repulsive, they've missed the mark entirely. In fact, he's rather pretty, which comes near to defeating the point. While he certainly doesn't look like your average run of man, he's nothing to run screaming from either). To hide this deformity, he makes his home in abandoned subway tunnels beneath the city of New York, in the company of a troupe of other outcasts, misfits and homeless and abandoned children, all of them presided over by a mysterious man called Father who, I gather, is an ex-convict of some kind (I'm afraid I missed some of the finer points along the way). One day Vincent discovers Catherine, a wealthy corporate attorney, who has been brutally slashed and left for dead, in what later turns out to be a case of mistaken identity, by some Bad Guys. Vincent carries Catherine back to the tunnels, where he nurses her back to health (she has her eyes bandaged through most of this, or did you work that out for yourself?), they fall in love, develop psychic abilities regarding each others' welfare but, of course, they realize they come from two different worlds (and, from outward appearances, two different species), they part, but vow always to be each others' friend and help each other, and that's the premise.

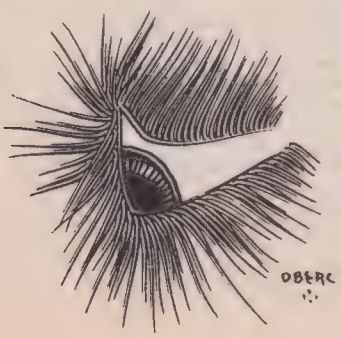
Okay, I realize it sounds a bit silly in the cold dark of print but, truly there's a lot going on here. There's the eternal story of the man who, through no fault of his own, is forced to love pure and chaste from afar (you never see this story told from a woman's standpoint because -- and there's probably a whole other column in this all by itself -- we seem to feel there's something innately ridiculous, not to say humorous, about an ugly woman in love with a beautiful man). There's the fairy tale of the original Beauty and the Beast, a most Jungian conceit, for those who like that sort of thing, and there is the completely fascinating concept of the Universe Underground, the troupe of outlaws living life on their own term, away from the judgmental eyes of the harsh, so-called "normal" world (is there anyone who has ever felt set-apart, unloved, or "different" who has not had this fantasy in some form?). In all truth, I think it's a charming

idea for a television programme and I do wish more than anything that I had nothing but nice things to say about it. The problem -- and my worry -- arises from the fact that, having thought up this delightful idea, the writers' creativity seems to have come to a screeching halt. This wasn't readily apparent for the first couple of weeks but, after nearly a season's worth of programmes, it is now possible -- and regrettably easy -- to boil down each week's plot to: Catherine and/or Vincent discovers raging corruption in the City (Catherine, in the meantime, in case I neglected to mention it, has given up her lucrative practice to join the district attorney's office, which only goes to show you what a man can do to you), Catherine enlists Vincent's help in solving the problem, or vice-versa, Catherine and/or Vincent ends up in great personal danger (generally, it is Catherine, but, again to place what credit is due, occasionally it turns out to be Vincent who finds himself up to his furry neck in thugs), Vincent rescues Catherine or Catherine rescues Vincent, the Corrupt Ones get what's coming to them, Catherine and Vincent gaze at each other longingly, and that's all she wrote. And I mean ALL she (or he or they) wrote, week after tedious week. And I worry. I worry that, given this sensational idea, a whole staff of writers can't seem to come up with something more entertaining than another in the endless line of Good Guys versus Bad Guys shows. God knows there's plenty of corruption in New York, but surely two such interesting people ought to be able to take a break from chasing it at least once in awhile and do something else, even if it's just hanging around the tunnels swapping prison stories with Father.

I worry about the state of Catherine's hormones. In a city like New York, where an annoying percentage of the men are married, gay, stupid, diseased or sometimes all four at once, if I had a polite, well-spoken, intelligent heterosexual male sending me single roses and slender volumes of Shakespeare's sonnets (this is a very neat trick of Vincent's, one other men would do well to consider), I'd be down in those tunnels so fast it would make your head spin, and I wouldn't much care how big his fangs were. I realize that, if this were to happen, much of the peculiar angst of the programme would go right out the window, and so would most of the plots, but that's precisely my point. Wouldn't it be far more interesting to watch an acceptedly normal woman attempt to cope with an abnormal situation, and visualize the changes both Vincent and Catherine would have to make to accomodate this situation, than to have still another shoot-em-up, even one done on a sophisticated level?

I worry about a society that seems to think that unrequited passion is somehow more romantic than a mutually loving relationship; I worry about the underlying message that those who look or act differently ought to hide themselves away in tunnels, and act exceptionally noble, so that "real" people either don't have to see them or else can feel properly sorry for them; I worry that these issues are scarcely ever addressed on BEAUTY AND THE BEAST, and I worry about myself for worrying them into something that purports to be no more than a harmless hour of fantasy, and, at that, a fantasy that I myself have just admitted to sharing. I even worry about the people who watch the show and are willing to accept the poor, bland little thing that it is, without demanding to see the complex, intricate, exciting thing that it could be.

So you see what I'm like these days. Honestly, it's just one nitpicky little thing after another, and I'm truly tired of myself. By next time, I promise, I'll either have entered therapy, a convent, or the new clinic I hear Betty Ford is opening up for compulsive churls, and will have tome to myself again. Besides, by then it will be Spring, and I can go back to directing my energies to hating little birds, green growing things, and the forthcoming crop of summer movies, and all will be well. Did I hear you say that you'll be glad? I'm delighted to hear it -- I worry about you, you know.



FANZINE SPOTLIGHT

YELLOW SILK

Vital Statistics:

Single issue, $4. Subscriptions, $15/1 year; $27/2 years; $36/3 years from verygraphics, PO Box 6374, Albany, CA 94706.

Printed 4 times a year since 1981, web offset on newsprint with slick covers. 8 1/2 by 11, average 52 pages.

Circulation is 12,500, with 9,500 paid copies, minimal exchanges, and about 2,000 newsstand sales.

The FACTSHEET FIVE library has issues starting with #15 (Summer 1985)

Publisher, Editor and Designer Lily Pond says "Why do I keep publishing? You might as well ask why do I keep falling in love. You gotta be half crazy. Also, you've got to recognize a good thing when you see it: I'm carving out a living and paying my bills doing work that I care about, with no more boredom or stress that you find in any job."

Anyone who recognizes a good thing will see one in YELLOW SILK. Subtitled the "Journal of Erotic Arts" and with a masthead proclamation of "All persuasions, no brutality", YS is a quarterly romp through human sensuality and sexuality. Lily expanded on this theme: "YS is not in the business of publishing fantasies made graphic; we are publishing literature and arts that are strong, and whole, on those counts, as well as being erotic. You want fantasies about acting out violent impulses in the sexual arena? Fine -- go read the rest of what's out there; you want to read excellent stories that are about sex, loving, and human beings? You're in the right place."

But the design of YS keeps this from getting monotonous. Every issue has a different "theme", with many pieces loosely organized around some common center. For example, #22 was "Loaves and Fishes", with lots of sensual food imagery, including Marge Piercy's "Morning love song":

> "I am filled with love like a melon
> with seeds, I am ripe and dripping sweet juices.
> If you knock gently on my belly
> it will thrum ripe, ripe...."

In the same issue, Gary Soto's personal tale of growing up, "A Short History of Sex", fairly glistens with food and eating, and even Michael Leu's art sneaks in a fish or two. Lily says, "To approach each issue as a new piece of art in itself allows me a broad and astonishing creative outlet somewhere between God, painter, and orchestra conductor. And,

along those lines, it has allowed me to have invented a universe in which I was an appropriate person, something that I had not come across previous to YS."

Part of this creativity comes across in the graphic design of the magazine. The typeface for each issue is chosen to match its mood and theme, and generally one artist has her works showcased every time. The net result is to lend a spirit of unity to the whole in very subtle ways.

But being an appropriate person is not always an easy task. Roberta Swann's two short stories, "Son Days" and "Mother and Child", also published in #22, have generated a great deal of controversy with their simple and tender depiction of relaxed sexual contact between an adult and her children. Readers have called them everything from "authoritative, funny and wonderful" to "implicit sexism" and "child abuse". Lily has kept her head through this as well as an editor can, asking readers to reread the stories rather than merely jerking their knees at the concept.

But most of the contents in YS don't provoke such fury; the emotions they engender are of another variety altogether. In less than 50 words Rebecca Meketa's poem "Bestiality" in #19 quickens the sensitive reader's pulse: "Me/clinging possum-style/to your bellyside/coming like a yawn..." Much the same can be said about Malcolm Glass's "First Time", excerpts from a novel of love old and young, in #17. And the visual arts aren't neglected either; the look of sensual longing in the face of the woman on the cover of #23, painted by Sergio Cuan, hits me more intensely than any skin magazine shot ever has.

Lily believes in encouraging her contributors by paying them, an unusual policy for the alternative press. "I pay because the people whose work I use, voice by voice, in each issue deserve to share in any return. Therefore payment sizes depend on the financial size of the magazine, but always do exist." The magazine also sponsors annual Erotic Writing Awards, for the most moving story and poem over the previous year, with a $200 prize.

If you're not convinced by now, you're hopeless case. The rest of you probably stopped reading some time ago to send in an order for a sample. So I'll wrap this up here with Lily's thoughts on what she's learned from publishing: "As many will hate you for it as will love you for it. You're frequently disappointed but never enough to dim your vision. And the warmth from the flow of a jewel never dims. Right-brain functioning at the expense of left-brain augmentation is folly."

Movers and Shakers

Mykel Board

Interviewed by the FF BBS regulars

Introduction: We were all sitting around chewing the fat on the BBS when the subject of this column came up, and we decided to talk to Mykel about his illustrious and checkered career as a big name in punk rock. The phone lines crackled for weeks, but thanks to the miracle of word processing, the end product is a fairly coherent interview.

For those who don't know, Mykel is the publisher of NOTHING BUT RECORD REVIEWS, lead singer for the band ARTLESS, co-ordinator of THE WORLD FOR FREE, columnist for MAXIMUM ROCKNROLL, and a general man about town.

Mykel Board: GG ALLIN played here in NYC the day before I left for SF. It was the first show he actually finished. He hit some guy in the head with a mic stand and will probably be sued. That wasn't the highlight though-- that was his pissing on Gerard Cosloy. Worth the price of admission!

Jim Testa: That reminds me -- I'm wrestling with the temptation to do yet another year's worth of Top Ten lists for Jersey Beat. Should I bother? The one argument in their favor is the unlikely consensuses (consensi? consensus's?) they sometimes reveal. It was surprising that both Jersey Beat and Conflict picked the same album (Moving Targets) as their #1 pick last year, for instance.

MB: Jim, do the lists. I think they're fun, as long as they're different from everybody elses. I often learn about new stuff from those lists. I just saw THE WICKERMAN from a mention that Biafra gave the movie (I still don't know if it was good, but it was sure as hell weird!).

Bob Morris: Or how about just bests and worsts? Here's some excerpts from my own end of the year ratings:

BEST BAND - Sonic Youth. In ten years people will be referring to then they way people refer to the Velvet Underground now. WORST BAND - Big Black. Pretentious loud-mouth. They couldn't get gigs here, which says something positive about L.A. LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR DEMENTIA - G.G. Allin (who else). MOST UNDER-RATED - Honeymoon Killers (U.S.) MOST OVER-RATED - their name is legion.

MB: Bob, I hate to say it, but generally you're wrong. You are right about THE HONEYMOON KILLERS though. They're great. They lead off the tape I just finished for ROIR.

BM: Ah, Mykel, even if you do show excrecable taste by disagreeing with nearly all by BEST OF choices, I'll still say the END OF MUSIC sounds great.

Mike Gunderloy: Tell us a bit more about that tape.

MB: The ROIR cassette that I just finished will be called THE END OF MUSIC (As We Know It). If features famous people, mostly from NY downtown-type noise bands. THE HONEYMOON KILLERS, PRONG, PHANTOM TOLLBOOTH. There's also a lot of "fake" bands made up of members of other famous bands. Parts of LIVE SKULL play under the name: NEEDLENOSE. THURSTON

MOORE (from Sonic Youth) does a solo version of the Velvets "European Son", JAD FAIR (1/2 Japanese) does a couple tunes, other bands with past or present members of PUSSY GALORE, THE UNDEAD, THE SWANS, are on the record, as well as a collaboration between JELLO BIAFRA and Kramer and David Licht from SHOCKABILLY. The idea was to give the bands a maximum of 2 hours in the studio to record live and raw and grungy. The idea of this tape is to mark the end of all previous musical styles. Am I biting off more than I can chew?

MG: What's up with ARTLESS?

MB: I think we'll go to AUSTRALIA this year. I'm studying Japanese now. I want to go someplace where the people are my size. (Maybe after Australia.) I also want to go to Bangkok, for obvious reasons.

MG: ARTLESS takes a lot of outrageous stands. How much of it is for real?

MB: Depends on what you mean: "real". When I started the band I wanted to make "a Republican punk band", simply because most of the bands at that time were leftish and I wanted to take the other side. Early songs like "Let'S All Support Supply Side Economics," "We're Republicans," and even "How Much Punk Rock Do you Hear in Russia?" were in keeing with that. I'm not really a republican. I'm a "social libertarian." Basically that means I believe in the maximum amount of civil liberties, with government guarantees (nope, I'm not an anarchist) that those liberties are economically and politically possible. That is, I believe in a (rather high) national minimum income, and ANTI-censoship legislation. (For example, in Denmark, it is against the law for a distributor, producer, local movie house, etc. to cut a film without the permission of the director.) ARTLESS'S newer songs (like "Terrorist" often reflect this libertarian attitude.)

MG: What about Andrea Dworkin? She's taken a bit of a beating in your lyrics.

MB: My "nasty" songs (anti-feminist ie totalitarian anti-male/ anti-porn feminist), anti-vegetarian, anti-straight edge, anti-peace punk: are all directed against the inherent totalitarianism of those groups. I don't think Dworkin is any better than Falwell-- and she's a hell of a lot uglier.

JT: Do you think Artless has any specific kind of audience?

MB: The audience of ARTLESS is a weird combination of people. It's some hardcore kids who think we're hip. It's also some people who understand in an intellectual way what we're doing. And then there's those I affectionately call: The Geeks. For some reason ARTLESS attracts the misfits, the nerds, the pimple-faced outcasts, those who just don't fit in with any definable group. A roomful of ARTLESS fans could fill a circus sideshow.

JT: Are your Artless projects more or less designed to satisfy your own taste...tastes & wants?

MB: In the beginning that was the case. The last album, GRASSDRIVER, (due out this month), is less MY album than a BAND album. In fact there are a few songs that I had absolutely nothing to do with.

JT: Does it bother you that, due to the nature of the punk rock/underground whatever, most of your "fans" are considerably younger than you are? (Present company excluded, of course).

MB: Sure it bothers me, but not in the way you'd expect. I don't mind hanging around with a bunch of teens. I feel closer to them than to people my own age (between 35 and 50). When people get to be our age-- with rare exceptions, they become boring materialists; Big Chillers with constant apologies for the way they're living. THAT'S what's sad: the inability of people to continue to live their own, untrapped lives. Kids are usually smarter than that.

MG: How much trouble do you have with commie punks who don't want to go back to Russia?

MB: Most of 'em are wimps. It's the girls I'm scared of. In Amsterdam people gave us the clenched fist salute and heckled like hell. When it became obvious that I was enjoying the heckling, about a third of the audience walked out. The others loved it. I did get a few threats in Gerany-- mosty because of my support for pornography. That's show biz, I guess.

Gibby from the Butthole Surfers was stabbed by a militant feminist in Vancouver. Not too serious, but scary. Remind me not to go to Vancouver.

MG: Do you make a living off his undergound shit or what?

MB: After trying it for a short time I decided that work is the worst thing one can do for a living. I spend a lot of time avoiding it. For about 7 weeks a year I do have a job at New York University making student ID cards. Actually it's two jobs simultaneously. Besides the staight $6.50 an hour pay, I make an extra $150 a month or so by giving out credit card applications, and magazine subscription offers to students who come for their cards. Besides that, I get money from my record company, doing independent production, (3 projects for ROIR so far as well as other stuff), an generally hustling around. ARTLESS doesn't make money, but it DOES get me to Europe and I hope the Pacific this year.

Rude Boy: Issue #3 of NOTHINGG BUT RECORD AND TAPE REVIEWS has the "exploitation" cover designed to increase sales. Has is it really done so? If so, what's in store for the cover of #4? Also, where do you find some of those things you review?

MB: My Linda Lovelace cover issue HAS sold better than the previous two issues, but that might be because it's been reviewed and in more places than the other two. Next issue will have a drawing by Sue Coyle concerning the destruction of commercial music. It should be pretty good! Nice and bloody! All the stuff I review has either been sent to me or I found in the bargain bins or in street sales. I won't (knowingly) review an IN-PRINT record on a major label-- everybody else does that. I review EVERYTHING (eventually) I get and I'm not too concern with staying current. I don't do this to sell records, but to expose people to music they've missed. Also, I wanted to create a haven from the discouraging bad reviews and cutsey aggressive feedback musicians get all the time. I never give records bad reviews. If I don't like something, I'll describe it. I never say it's bad. I want to encourage musical exploration-- not be responsible for someone missing something great because its not my taste.

Also, I never respond to the letters I print. Too often the editor has the last word, so the letters can never stand on their own. If people have something to say, I let it be said. Of course, some of the letters I print were never intended for publication, but I think they're worth reading. As far as I know, the only other fanzine to approach this attitude was "Mallice" from Tennessee. I haven't heard a thing about them in a long time.

MG: Want to say anything about THE WORLD FOR FREE? A success or a scam? (How's THAT for incisive journalism?)

MB: THE WORLD FOR FREE has been doing pretty good lately. I'm still losing money, but not as much as before. For those who don't know, basically THE WORLD FOR FREE is an address book where you pay $25 to list your name, address, and information about yourself, and then you can stay with anyone else in the book. It's a lot more complicated than that, and there are safeguards (no one is ever REQUIRED to accept a guest).

One of the wire services (Knight-Ritter) picked up on the book so I've been getting lots of response from weird places. Almost a hundred members now. I'm giving the first hundred members a LIFETIME membership just to build up the base. After that, it'll be $25 A YEAR! (Oh yeah, interested people should write to: THE WORLD FOR FREE, PO BOX 137, Prince Street Station, New York, NY 10012.)

JT: About your MRR column. Going back to my "Year of the Asshole" piece in Alternative Info -- Do you really believe all those things you write, or do you sometimes see yourself as a kind of Punk Rock gadfly whose intent is to make your readers formulate their own responses to your outrageousness, i.e. make the little buggers THINK for a change?

MB. Except where I think it's very obvious irony (sometimes, however I'm wrong), I DO believe everything I write. For literary and emotional purposes, I often make my feelings more simplistic/ totalitarian/ abrasive than they need be, but I do believe the stuff. Actually, if you take apart my opinions and examine them cool-headedly, I think you'll find that they are not as "extreme" as they appear. They often conflict with the beliefs of the general MRR lackies, but I don't think they conflict with common sense or clear reason. I am opposed to vegetarians, feminists, commies, anarchists, straight edgers, positive punks, The Vancouver Five, etc. for variations on the same reason: They want to impose their vision of the world at the expense of others. Each group thinks that ITS rights are more important than the rights of those it opposes. It strikes me as comic that the militant anti-Klanners say, "Deny freedom of speech to those who would deny it to others." In effect, they are asking others to deny that right to THEM.

Even those attitudes which seem most extreme in my writing (eg. support for child pornography/sex or opposition to drunk driving laws) are simply an extension of the idea that-- as much as possible-- the individual should be responsible for his or her own life.

Of course, some of what I do is also done in the spirit of play. I feel like a bull fighter, waving the red flag in

front of the red flag wavers. When they blindly attack, I like to stick my tongue out and say Nya, Nya.

BM: Mykel, would you care to comment on the rumor that you pay the rent by doing studio work for Whitney Houston? That you are, in reality, an insurance salesman slumming in the lower east side?

MB: Jesus Christ! How the fuck did you find out all that stuff?? I thought I had so well covered my tracks and then... Well, look. Don't tell anyone and I'll get you a copy of the latest Bon Jovi test pressing. Didn't you know? I also do work for him (I get paid in sex for that one-- Mr. Jovi has the cutest little mole...)

Tom Jennings: I guess "fag" jokes are my latest thing. Last nite a couple a kids are watching a fight, and occasionally yelling "scumbag" and "faggot." Well, it pissed me off that they were yelling shit, when there's a situation that people are trying to calm down and deal with. Plus, I get real tired of hearing "fag". So I sorta grabbed him and said "look, I'm a fag, why don't you find another swearword"? And he said "I didn't mean anything sexual." Later I apologized for yelling and getting pissed, and explained that hearing "fag" all the time, even though I know he just meant it as a generic swearword. It's like hearing "you jew" when you just mean someone is a cheapskate or something.

MB: Guess what Tom -- in Hungary, people do call others "Jew" in the much the same circumstances people use "fag" here. I've heard it said, that even Jewish schoolkids will call each other "Jew" as an insult. As for me, I think fag has little to do with homosexuality (except perhaps etymologically), and it's up to you and me to make sure it has even less to do with it in the future. I was using the word for years before I even knew what a HOMO was! The word to me, still has nothing to do with sexual orientation. I know plenty of homos who are not fags and plenty of FAGS who fuck girls.

MG: What's your '88 Presidential dream race? I fantasize about LaRouche & Jackson vs. Robertson & Haig.

MB: The two preachers running against each other would be fun to see. I think the best man we've had in politics since Wilson is Jimmy Carter, and you saw what happend to him. I'd like to see William Henry Harrison run for President. His best qalification is that he's dead. Or how about Bob Black vs. Tim Yohannon?

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POETRY

As usual, the poetry reviews are by either pj bellomo (pj) or the Aeditor (MG). Someday we'll work out a system to consolidate duplicate reviews...

ALATUIR #1 ($1 from Triglav Press, Dwight Humphries, 1181 Pine Grove Ave., Atlanta, GA 30319): A broadside with works from 4 different poets. In their own way, each tackles themes of despair, destruction and other dismal things. The most direct is Wayne Sallee's little verse about a dead child; the most powerful is Mark Rich's more inscrutable tale of rejected love. (S-2) (MG)

*****

Ron Androla, CUNT ($1 from Suburban Wilderness Press, 430 S. 21st Ave. East, Duluth, MN 55812): It's hard to come to grips with Ron's poems. As he recognizes, he's writing about blood and sweat and sex and hard work and other subjects not likely to be found in the AMERICAN POETRY REVIEW. But even more, he's writing in a choppy style that stumbles along like a drunken cowboy and makes it hard to follow. If you can get past this, the experiences seem real; but the barrier is high. (D-12)

*****

APA-RENGA #13-14 ($5 minimum from Box 429, Monte Rio, CA 95462): A subscriber-written zine focusing on the Japanese Renga form of poetry. (The $5 opens your subscriber account.) These are multi-author/-branch poems, so there can be numerous ends to the same beginning. Beyond the shear enjoyment for the reader-writer, these Rengas have the potential to provide a great learning environment for those interested in acquiring sensitivity to form: Why did that work & not this? (HL-55) (pj)

*****

THE BASEMENT (? from Mumbles Publications, PO Box 8312, Wichita, KS 67208): Underneath a drawing of a skinny bald man wearing a G-string & net stockings there's the following: "You cannot escape or elaborate the infinite forms of Nature." Send them a stamp & some words of encouragement. (M-4) (pj)

*****

BELLOWING ARK Vol. 3 #6 ($2 from PO Box 45637, Seattle, WA 98145): Traditional poetry and short autobiography and fiction presented simply and well. Two pieces dominate this issue: the latest installment of Nelson Bentley's autobiographical epic poem, simply because of its size, and Marjorie Sweeney's "Leaves in the Wind", thanks to the simplicity and grace of its tales of Scotland 80 year ago. But there are plenty of short poems as well, with lots of images of Man and Nature to contemplate. (T-20t) (MG)

*****

BLACK FLAT LATEX PAINT (free from Black Flat Latex Paint, Clark Univ, 950 Main St, PO Box 1767, Worcester, MA 01610): 4 photocopied sheets of paper stapled in the corner. There's both photographs and graphics, along with a page of poems by Udelle Cadaver. "Ode to Paul" catches the spirit here: "send him letters/mail him threats/give him head without regrets." They don't offer much, but they don't ask for much either. If you're interested, be a sport & include a stamp. (S-4) (pj)

*****

BLIND DATE JITTERS ($1 from Daniel F. Bradley, 551A Crawford St., Toronto, ONT M6G 3J9, CANADA): A collaboration between Daniel and Greg Evason, this is a strange kettle of surrealistic fish. The poetry is relatively unstructured yet seemingly too nearly coherent to be the result of a cut-up process. Overall these pages give one a feeling of confused malaise, as if something isn't quite right with the world. (S-5) (MG)

*****

BLUE LIGHT REVIEW #8 ($3 from Paul Dilsaver, PO Box 1621, Pueblo, CO 81002): A poetry journal with a brief section of reviews by a sharp-tongued women named "Eva." None of the poetry can be said to be powerful, but it does deliver temporal messages time and again. Take, for instance, "A Curse" by Gary Lundy: "As you kneel, work at the gum upon your soul with a twig, you curse all children who have at one time or another spit their gum out to be stepped on." Expect this to be uncomplicated and right to the point. (T-40) (pj)

*****

BONESAUCE POETRY ($1 from 418 E. Lewiston, Ferndale, MI 48220): "The forum for Alternative Poetry", this one stretches the genre in new directions. This is the first zine I've read with two poems about 7-11s, for example. Dismal love, supermarket satire, and rock hallucinations mix it up with strange little collages. (D-16r) (MG)

*****

BUMPER CARS ($1 from Suburban Wilderness Press, 430 S. 21st Ave. East, Duluth, MN 55812): A rather deceptive chapbook from Patrick McKinnon. The first poem is an idyllic recollection of childhood at the fair, fascinated by bumper cars. Turning the page, the reader is suddenly lost in a shocking sea of gangsters and porno and cut throats and death and other fun things. Childhood recollections mix with archetypical criminals to create an eerie feeling. (D-16) (MG)

*****

BURYING THE DEAD ($3 from D. Watt, PO Box 3687, San Diego, CA 92103): A rather morbid collection of poems, as the great majority of them deal with death and dying. Dead friends, dead lovers, dying pets, AIDS -- they're all here. Grief has many faces, but after a few of them, I get ready to move on to something else. (D-44) (MG)

*****

CRAWLSPACE 15 (39 cents postage & 6x9 envelope from Dennis Gulling, 908 W. 5th St., Belvidere, IL 61008): This issue is titled "Drunk at the Movies", and is entirely poems from Todd Moore. Knowing Todd's work, I was sure these would not be odes to the big screen, and indeed the movies are only the unifying feature. It's what the audience is doing that fascinates the author: sweaty teenage sex, suicide, and the mean streets outside the theatre are the focus of this collection, all in Todd's rushing fearful words. (D-12r) (MG)

*****

Paul Dilsaver, CHARACTER SCATOLOGY (? from Hardwood Books c/o Dr. John Garmon, Mountain Empire Community College, Drawer 700, Big Stone Gap, VA 24219): Simply put, this is a finely finished book of poetry by a damn good poet. Broken into 3 parts (I. Survival Lies; II. Veteran; & III. Postscripts of a Paranoid), the book moves thru an atmosphere of pitiful obscenity, never unbearably offensive, yet unrelenting. "Why Write," the last poem, was a weak finish, but the pace of such pieces as "Sex Lie" must have been fatiguing: "...We will bring it out/only at night,/unleash and unmuzzle it,/let it snap at our crotches/as we laugh/and revel in its musk." We are confronted with the lies of a paranoid veteran. A work of precise - and precisely disgusting - writing. (D-54) (pj)

*****

William Dockery, FIRE CRACKERS, IDIOT SOLVENT, & SHAMAN (50 cents from William Dockery, 3226A River Ave, Columbus, GA 31904): These are 3 separate photocopied mini-pamphlets with graphics, poetry, some photos, & in the case of SHAMAN, comics. Although they're all interesting to look at, the only writing that offers anything is in FIRE CRACKERS. (M-8) (pj)

*****

DREAMS AND NIGHTMARES (sample for 2 stamps or $5/12 issues from David Kopaska-Merkel, 116 1st St, Troy, NY 12180): The editor describes this poetry as "fantastic and speculative," and I'd agree that some magical touch is prevalent throughout these works. Ree Young, with "On Emily Rising," provides a suitable example of this mystical quality: "Awkward in this first death,/she reached for/her new lover's hand,/and Emily left her bed." Brief editorial comments prior to each piece were welcome company. Well done. (D-10) (pj)

*****

DREAMS AND NIGHTMARES #19/20 ($5/12 issues from David C. Kopaska-Merkel, 740 River St., Troy, NY 12180): David introduces each poem with a few words about the author and perhaps the theme, which is a nice touch. The works here are mostly short, and touch on the extremes of human emotion, with threats and hope and yes, dreams and nightmares. (D-24) (MG)

*****

Denise Dumars, SHEET LIGHTNING ($4 from Terata Publications, PO Box 810, Hawthorne, CA 90251): This first collection of Dumars' works presents a poet with her own voice. She interplays natural imagery with human struggles - frequently, it seems, her own. The end of the title poem depicts her rhythm: "Outside the window, sheet lightning/ and I can't decide whether to hide,/safe, in here, or take my chances outside/at the mercy of electricity/and light." A careful reading reveals that she took her chances. (D-31) (pj)

*****

Robin L. Eckhardt, SILLY DAYS AND RAIN (? from Cenotaph Press, PO Box 844, Rockford, IL 61105): Most of this chapbook is filled with short poems titled "BANANA #29," "BANANA #30," BANANA #31," etc. Some of these are silly in a good way, some could survive if Pink Floyd was playing background music, the majority are silly in a bad way. "Marbles" was kinda fun: "I didn't mean to seduce you - I only wanted to help build your arches." Don't spend big bucks on this one. (D-10r) (pj)

*****

Sharon Eiker, Steven Morris, & Carl Bettis, DREDGING THE DEPTHS ($5.50 or $6 1st class from Carl Bettis, PO Box 32631, Kansas City, MO 64111): Each author contributes 26 poems to this sifting of "deep consciousness." Bettis most easily penetrates the murkier levels when using grotesquely sensational images, as in his creation myth "I Am Born." His other stuff, barring a haiku here and there, fail to do the dredging they claim to. Sharon Eiker, however, consistently lives up to the billing; her fantasy poem "The Rescue," for example, is escapism to be reckoned with by all those in stagnant relationships. Alternating between quiet observation and near hysteria, Eiker has completed her dredging and now dangles artefacts of humanity before us. (D-84) (pj)

*****

FIRECRACKERS #7 (50 cents from William Dockery, 3226A River Ave., Columbus, GA 31904): It's obvious that Dockery is trying to get emotions across in these poems. But that's as far as it goes, because the choppy lines, the idiosyncratic spellings and the word choices make these look like first drafts rather than finished pieces of craftsmanship. There are times when things ought to be held back and revised. (M-8)

*****

GARGOYLE #34 ($7.95 from PO Box 30906, Bethesda, MD 20814): Other than an interesting experimental piece opening side one and two soft-rocking musical numbers on side two, this cassette is all poetry. At the end of "Shadow Dancing in the Suburbs," O'Sullivan exemplifies the potential beauty of verse read aloud: "oh I could dance the old desire/until the shopping center fades from sight/and morning takes my window for its wife." The readings of Wakeley, Morgan, Waldrop, Clair, and Morrissey were also stand-outs; Rosemarie Waldrop, with her hauntingly deliberate reading from "The Reproduction of Profiles," provided a particularly memorable performance. A must for lovers of poetry and the human voice. (tape-90) (pj)

*****

HOLLOWPOINT #2 ($.22 stamp from Mumbles Publications, PO Box 8312, Wichita, KS 67208): An irregularly issued broadsheet, this one with 3 works by T. Hibbard. The "Prelude," which opens with "October mists down/And hides me in its heaviness," is, by itself, worthy of the single stamp. (S-1) (pj)

*****

Stefan Hyner, THE WALLS OF THIS HOUSE HAVE TONGUES ($1 (?) from Blackberry Books, Chimney Farm, RR1 Box 228, Nobleboro, ME 04555): A connected poem cycle with photography by Roland Scholz. This is a love tale, with certain images -- longing and fire, most notably -- repeated throughout. It's told as a series of quick elusive vignettes. The whole is rather unsettling; it seems somehow too incomplete. (S-16) (MG)

*****

Bronwen Jones, SKATING THE SIDE OF VIOLENCE (75 cents (?) from Squash Press, PO Box 210208, San Francisco, CA 94121): A chapbook of short untitled poems flanked by photography and collage. Overall the images hang together well and create a wistful feeling. The speaker is one who has seen the earth being engulfed by man and regrets it quietly. (D-16t)

*****

LACTUCA #7 ($3 from Mike Selender, PO Box 621, Suffern, NY 10901): A quarterly poetry journal that's moving to only 3 times a year in '88. Other than one short story & a random dialogue here and there, it's all poetry with themes seemingly rooted in real-time human exerience. War is alluded to often enough to mention, at least as an undercurrent in this issue. I liked "Fork it Over" by M. Pingarron: "...we're hanging out on street corners/selling what we'll never own." (D-39) (pj)

*****

LIME GREEN BULLDOZERS (AND OTHER RELATED SPECIES) #4 (50 cents & 2 stamps from 723 N. Highland Ave., Arlington Heights, IL 60004): A collection of young idealistic poetry -- or at least poetry by young idealists. It tends to be very sketchy and emotional -- the subtitle "A cacophony of souls" is very apt. Also includes zine reviews and a bit of artwork. Still striving to find a voice of its own. (S-10) (MG)

*****

LOST & FOUND TIMES 21/22 ($10/5 issues from Luna Bisonte Productions, 137 Leland Ave., Columbus, OH 43214): John Bennett and a host of co-conspirators derange the language and

force it into poems of dubious parentage. There's a fascinating section of Bennett collaborations and parodies in this issue, including a few by Dr. Al Ackeman who also contributes some of his inscrutable prose. Reading L&FT is like drinking an eyeball floating in a glass of warm gravy. A whack on the side of the head. (D-48r) (MG)

*****

MARYLAND POETRY REVIEW Fall 1987 ($12/yr from Maryland Poetry and Literary Society, Drawer H, Catonsville, MD 21228): A journal "interested in promoting the literary arts in Maryland and the Mid-Atlantic region". After the usual freewheeling underground pubs, this one seems rather stiff and staid, filled with images of love and family and nature that seem technically proficient enough but lack a certain spark. (D-30t)

*****

Todd Moore, Eckhard Gerdes, Dennis Gulling, & Brad Johnson ($8 from Brad Johnson, 3205 N. Clark St #405, Chicago, IL 60657): A cassette of these guys reading live at Howard & Hyde's Books in Chicago last September. Gerdes reads from a recent novel while the rest stick to poetry. Gulling's poems focus entirely on gore; he successfully disgusted me into fast-forwarding. As for the rest: Gerdes novel might be something but the reading wasn't; Johnson had a nice reading voice, though his poetry was often weak; Moore, the strongest writer of the bunch, gave some interesting background information to his Dillinger project and read some of the shorter poems - for some, this alone will make the tape worthwhile. (tape-90) (pj)

*****

MYSTERIOUS VISIONS #16 (75 cents from Ian Shires, 17914 N. Inlet Dr., Strongsville, OH 44136): A well put-together crossover publication featuring naturalistic comic art and a cycle of seven poems. The poetry takes us on a journey with the narrator through a complete dread of life to an ending of understanding and readiness to grow. It's not prize quality, but the direct style makes it a refreshing change. (M-16) (MG)

*****

NEO #11-12 (SASE from Glenn Wilkins, 605 13th St., Knoxville, TN 37916): Glenn issues little booklets of poetry, each with a different graphic design and featuring the works of a different poet. #11 contains crystalline poems from Margaret Cooper, somehow capturing glistening moments of life. #12 is shorter, cryptic pieces by Skid. (D-8)

*****

NEW HOPE INTERNATIONAL #10 ($3 from Gerald England, 23 Gambrel Bank Rd., Ashton under Lyne, OL6 8TW, UK): Truly international in scope, this features translations from the Japanese as well as poems in Hungarian and German. Stuff varies from 3 lines to 100+, as Gerald concentrates on quality rather than subject matter or size. Particularly intriguing is Bonnie McGara's "Notes From an American System", perhaps the first good poem about computerized scut-work that I've seen. There's also a REVIEW SUPPLEMENT available for $1, with notes on (mostly English) small presses and magazines publishing poetry. (A5-28) (MG)

*****

NEXT EXIT #11 ($3 from Eric Folsom, 92 Helen St., Kingston, ONT. K7L 4P3, CANADA): Eric puts out an extremely restrained publication, with lots of space around the poems, as if to give the poets room to talk. And some of them do so rather well. Brian Burke manages a sensuous poem about something other than screwing (it's abotu massage, an unusual subject for an underground poet); B.Z. Niditch contributes several expressive scenes. There's also a couple of reviews and addresses for a few other good zines. (D-28r) (MG)

*****

OFF MY FACE ($3 from D. Watt, PO Box 3687, San Diego, CA 92103): A passionate collection of poems about jobhunting and writing and sex and work. There are definite standouts here: Wayne Hogan's sarcastic "A Letter to my Editors"; Jay Dougherty's "They'd be wise to give me the next job" and Bukowski's slice of life "the jackals" all leap to the fore. Much strong writing from others flanks these; there are very few duds. (D-32) (MG)

*****

Yurus Paradox, FAMOUS MR. ED & Chris Francz, CIGARETTES AND THE FLOOR ($3 from State Hospital Productions, Box 1033, East Stroudsburg, PA 18301): This is a split cassette. Side one has Paradox talking about what appears to be the joys of solipsism. Francz, on side two, talks about insanity, freezing to death, & other random things of moderate interest. This isn't poetry or music. The production quality is poor. Let's just call it arid. (tape-30)(pj)

*****

PHONOSTATIC #7 (? from Photostatic Magazine, 424 E Jefferson No. 4, Iowa City, Iowa 52240): Synthesized music and eerie noises filled a good deal of this audio magazine. And then there was this newscaster talking about how people are afraid in their own neighborhoods and there was this crazed woman saying she was gonna get a gun to protect herself and if you listen to this with a walkman while you're heading for your car late at night it'll give you the creeps! (tape-90) (pj)

*****

PLANET FALL (50 cents from William Dockery, 3226A River Ave., Columbus, GA 31904): There may be some decent poetry here, but this reviewer can't get by the compressed modernized spelling to find out ("i know/yur ovr-workt and under-paid..."). It may be meant to suggest urgency, but it just doesn't work. (M-8) (MG)

*****

POETRY MOTEL #10-11 ($2.50 from Suburban Wilderness Press, 430 S. 21st Ave. East, Duluth, MN 55812): Well-produced and flashy, particularly the Mylar cover on #10. The poetry is hot stuff too; fairly traditional but deep writers like Miriam Sagan rub words with the near-opera of "Jesse Glass Poem", which features a talking pig and a host of onlookers commenting on the poet. Editor Patrick McKinnon's own stuff tends to hit up the dark side of human nature, people ground down by the world and fighting back. Worth a good hard look. #11 has, in addition to more powerful raw poetry, introspection on writing the stuff from Willie Smith, Todd Moore, and Laurel Speer. (HL-44) (MG)

*****

THE PUP ($.22 stamp from Bill Shields, Sprinter Printing, 5250 W 74th St, Edina, MN 55435): The first broadsheet in a series to be issued irregularly. Chris Winkler has a great story explaining why a bum would spend his time slicing the testes off of strung-out junkies. John Bennett & Keith Dodson chime in with some poetry, Dodson's sardonic style proving to be the sharper of the two. A fine little production! (S-4) (pj)

*****

Jacob Rabinowitz, translator, ed., RAIUS VALERIUS CATULLUS' COMPLETE POETIC WORKS ($2 from Verlag Golem PO Box 3414, Providence, RI 02906): Having found previous translations wanting, Rabinowitz presents this old Latin poet by grouping the works according to common theme. This Catullus dude was quite a character, how about this epigram: "Caesar? Caesar who?" It's work to go through this comprehensive translation, seeing the style is hardly what we're accustomed to, but the rewards are great - coming mostly in smiles. (D-79r) (pj)

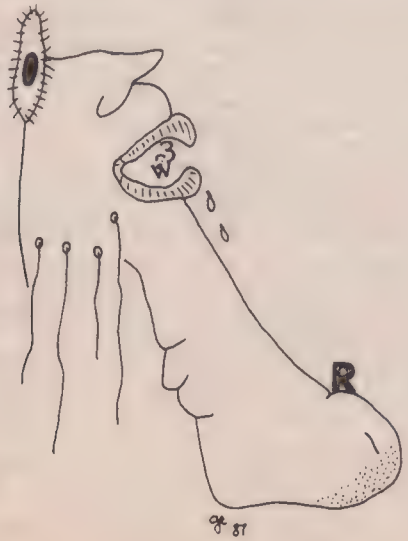
*****

RATTLER #4 ($5 from Peter Haskell, c/o Anne Greene, 1211 Hollins St., Baltimore, MD 21223): "American Poetry and Art", this one rides hard on a keen knife-edge of disillusionment and angst. The art is stark, the poetry is starker, with a great bunch of stuff about winning and losing and playing the game roughly. #4 features half a dozen pages of Lydia Lunch rants. Dark and wonderful. (D-48t) (MG)

*****

RAW BONE 10 (Donation from Tom House, PO Box 120661, Nashville, TN 37212): There's a lot more raw than bone in this one, thanks to a lot of coarse-edged gritty poetry. Tom and friends Todd Moore and Steve Richmond (among others) view the world through shit-colored glasses and do their best to tell us, bluntly and economically, why it looks that way. Best of the bunch, though, is Belinda Subraman's "The Gods Are Angry", a look at charity from the other side. (D-16) (MG)

*****



Miriam Sagan, SPILLING MARMALADE ($9.95 from Pectin Audio, PO Box 8503, Santa Fe, NM 87504): A cassette of a conversational interview by D. Bluestone, interspersed with Sagan reading her poetry and fiction. Generally, the work here is as good as Sagan's publication record might imply, though her use of the word "erotic" detracts from eroticism in her poetry. In addition, the "isn't it great & interesting to be a writer" attitude throughout the interview is a little much. Still, die-hard fans will probably be interested. (tape-60) (pj)

*****

SAMISDAT

Instead of a "?" for the cost of chapbooks (see reviews below) produced by Merritt Clifton's SAMISDAT press, I'll try and summarize the pricing policy: $2 for a sample copy of SAMISDAT magazine, $2.50 with a copy of their "philosophy of writing;" $15 for the next 500 pages published by the press; $25 for the next 1000 pages; and $150 for all future items plus previous releases still in stock. Generally, the chapbooks I've seen don't have individual prices; while these books are distinguishable by author and title, they're indexed as a SAMISDAT release by vol and #. Clifton the Bull seems to have the following pragmatic perspective: all our stuff's good, so our rates are proportional to the materials consumed. When ordering or for free (w/SASE) catalog write to Box 129, Richford, VT 05476.

Christopher Butters, THE WHITE ROOM (vol 49, #4): Writings of quiet commitment and remembrance. In "Fantasy," Butters coyly recalls the 60's: "...I vaguely wonder/what happened to those/crazy politicals in cities/if they got killed/maybe that was their karma." Other recollections involve worker struggles, "The White Room" being Boss terrain. (D-16)

Louie Crew, MIDNIGHT LESSONS (vol 49, #3): Our hero in this poetry collection is a homosexual school teacher who feels there's a red "Q" pinned to his lapel. A question is put to America: "When will you free your gay children from your unlove." An altogether poignant account of survival in redneck lands filled with good ol' boys. (D-12)

Hal J. Daniels III, PAMLICO SOUND (vol 50, #1): Have you ever fallen in love with the sound of water? Or the countryside? These poems reflect the despair felt by nature lovers who now hear only speed boats, toy pick-ups, and dirt bikes. Thankfully, there's no resignation here; they try to negotiate with the noisemakers, most successfully so with an unsuspecting woodpecker. (D-12)

Peter Ludwin, WHITEWATER (vol 49, #2): This bunch of poems moves through a number of topics. Sports is an important one, especially baseball. Ludwin has a knack at getting inside a situation and bringing it to life. Whatever the scenario might be, from a downhill ski run to a last chance game of scrabble, you are forced to empathize. (D-19)

Paul Weinmar, ADAM'S AT BAT (vol 50, #2): This one's the exception; nestled among a list of baseball chapbooks on the backcover there's a price of $1. The poems take Adam thru a night of hardball, starting with the ritual of slipping on his jock and ending with a deep shot to center. Initially, the "woman waiting in the stands" image comes across as macho, but a little patience proves otherwise: the relationship ain't that simple. If you haven't caught on yet, these folks take their baseball seriously. (D-20) (pj)

*****

SOLO FLYER #2-3 ($3/8 issues from David Brian McCoy, 2115 Clearview NE, Massillon, OH 44646): Broadsheets featuring a single author per issue: Laurel Speer's works appears on #2 and Barbara Morgan McFerron's on #3. Speer writes of some less than tranquil experiences with a father, while McFerron hits a number of topics with a "nature" mood as the common denominator - "Doves" was her best effort. Although I can appreciate the editor's intent, the price is a bit above the going rate for these things. (M-3) (pj)

*****

STRIDE (1.5 pounds from Flat 2, 14 Oxford Road, St. James, Exeter, Devon, UK or $3 from Stride c/o Thomas Wiloch 43672 Emrick Drive, Canton, MI 48187): This special summer issue starts with S.C. Middleton blathering about "elegaic vistas," "phantasmagoric waterfalls," and other vain attempts at turning novelty into art. Susan Abraham's prosaic poetry and the works by Patrick Wood & P. Street follow smartly, giving this beast some life. The finish is strong, with D. Grubb's sequence of poems called "Dream Mirror Diary" searching the unconscious in a complex, detached manner, as if he's a stoned therapist working a little overtime. Despite bursts of good writing, this left me dry. Was it the orange cover? (D-57) (pj)

*****

SUB ROSA #19 ($12/yr or $2/iss from 840 #2A Palisade Ave, Teaneck, NJ 07666): Currently appearing every 6 weeks, this literary zine is moving to a quarterly publication schedule. My favorite poem was Bob Rixon's "The One Who Is There;" it might've been my fickle disposition but this ghostly ode did indeed spook me: "I walk down the steps backward/watching loose pieces of wallpaper/waving, there is no draft/lightbulbs never burn out upstairs." It's not all great, but the variety will undoubtedly offer everyone a favorite. (M-20) (pj)

*****

SUB ROSA 20 ($1 (?) from 840 Palisade Ave. #2A, Teaneck, NJ 07666): Most poetry zines stick to one narrow area of the genre. This one doesn't; apparently the main criterion is whether something is good. So a long dreamy flowing poem like Suzy Unger and a collection of Bukowski's machine-gun experiential snapshots can share an issue, or Nico Vassilakis can put in one of his dense and complex poems and rub words with Liza Pille's introspectiveness. Also features artwork by A, strange looks at the madness of human relations. This one feels nice. (M-24) (MG)

*****

TARA'S LITERARY ARTS JOURNAL #1 ($2 from Anastacia Press, PO Box 834, Bethel Park, PA 15102-9998): The format here is simple and effective, one poet and one poem per page. But somehow the themes are monotonously similar: the big questions of truth, life, the universe and everything are the subject of the majority of these poems. And the answer is usually God, so by halfway through, the reader, however religious, is left wishing for a bit more variety. (M-36t) (MG)

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THIS IS IMPORTANT #'s 5,7,9,12,& 13 (cash donations from Important Poetry Press, 361 N Park Way, Santa Cruz, CA 95062): These are pocket-size pamphlets, each containing about 6 poems, perfect for pulling out in the middle of a hectic day to remind you you're human. There's well-crafted thoughts mixed in with junk, so easy on the "cash donations." (M-6) (pj)

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TITAN PRESS MAGAZINE #1 ($1.75 from Mark Slathcher, 11833 E. 62nd St, Broken Arrow, OK 74012): The idea here is to have graphic art submitted for publication, and then have poetry written to complement the art - instead of the other way around. This first issue, called "Light," features Matt Reynolds' sketches. After seeing the drawing of an armor-clad hero hovering over a fallen damsel on the inside cover one only hopes the writing will save this: it doesn't. (D-15) (pj)

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TITAN PRESS MAGAZINE #2 ($2 from Mark Slatcher, 11862 E. 64 St. S, Broken Arrow, OK 74012): A short collection of work from Mark and his buddy Matthew Richards. The topics are pretty depressing: gunplay and murder, suicide and death. There are nicer poems, but flanked by this sort of thing, they don't stand out. Nice sketch art. (D-20) (MG)

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tundra wind, THE 104 NAMES OF CHAOS ($7 from PO Box 429, Monte Rio, CA 95462): At the center of Hun Tun Zen rests, or better yet, moves the art of not knowing. Written, almost entirely, during a trance-like state over the course of a rare weekend alone for the author, this book comes to us as a peaceful guide to chaos.

An insight accompanies each of the 104 names of chaos. "Forging" exemplifies the format: "connecting with all thingings, forging a web of chaos. on the anvil of possibling, shape a multiverse. forge your dreams. forge the possible." Notice the absence of "to be" verb forms. "Not exist" or "is not" possibles, "exist" or "is," however, impossibles.

A sociological anlysis would be applicable to this conceptual system, as it would to any other religion. Nevertheless, this book fascinated me so much that I'd rather skeptically enjoy it. Around the third reading I started having some freaky dreams, whatever that means. (S-68)(pj)

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VICE VERSA Vol. 2 #4 ($1 (?) from Jean Lyons, 838 E. 57th St. #3W, Chicago, IL 60637): This belongs here, if only because the few prose pieces have a spacey poetic feel to them (Mike Miskowski's "Five Days of Glucose" is the best of these). Of the poetry, Antler's "Mo No Screaming Eco-Meemie", a plea for socially responsible poetry, is easily the best, being perhaps the definitive answer to those who complain on behalf of a much-maligned system. Lots of sardonicism here. (S-16t) (MG)

POETRY NOTE:

* Mr. Cogito Press (PO Box 66124, Portland, OR 97266) sent a couple of pages of catalog plus an interesting poem by Joe Napora about suicide and social conscience. SASE.

Randy Russell, TBS PUBLICATIONS:

Why publish? That's a good question sometimes. Because at one time it was something new and different to do -- at first it was the magic of photocopy -- lay something out, copy it, and WOW! There's something new altogether. Later, you worry about poor printshop quality and this magic goes away. But the publishing becomes habitual.

It was a way to get yourself published. Because in writing class in college they talked about "small presses" -- but these all had names that sounded like plants and trees and flowers. And you were a punk. You didn't care for their poetry, and you didn't figure they'd want to deal with your type-o's. So you publish it yourself and it was FUN. Dealing with the whole thing, doing all of it yourself. Until the numbers start increasing -- bigger mailing list, more words and pages, and more money to do it all.

So it's work now as well, and I complain about it a lot, but I could never consider NOT doing it -- it's just something I DO now. Just like I always wrote -- now it seems logical that I have ways of getting people to read what I write. I've learned a lot the hard way about doing this and there's a lot I don't know. It helps to hear other people's experiences and methods of publishing -- how they get it done, things they've learned along the way, I'd like to see more of this. After all, that's what it's all about -- sharing things to help other people. It doesn't make much sense to help yourself if you aren't helping other people as well.

*****

Edd Vick, FAN'TOONS:

Publishing is fun, and puts me in touch with scads of interesting people. The primary motivation behind Miscellania Unlimited Press (over sixty publications in the past seven years!) has always been communication. In a recent column for the Small Press Comics Explosion, I coined the phrase 'mail junkie' to describe what I am, and the response I've gotten seems to indicate that loving to get weird stuff in the mailbox is a big reason for many self-publishers getting into business. I send most of my 300-copy printrun out free to contributors, prospective contributors, in trades and to reviewers, so I'm certainly not in it for the money (for that matter -- a calendar spotlighting small-press artists, one of the few things I thought actually would generate a few bux, ended up selling something like five copies -- shows what I know).

My stated reason for publishing fan'toons is to cross-pollinate sfandom (David Heath, Jr, Bill Rotsler, Teddy Harvia, etc) with the small press (Jim Ryan, Sheridan, Allen Freeman, etc) and any other group I can find (funny animal fandom, family and friends, even a smidgeon of mail art). It's fun. Perhaps it's easiest to understand when I mention that my main influence was/is Brad W. Foster, an artist who'd contribute to anything that sat still long enough (and winner, if overdue, of the 1986 fanartist Hugo).

Communication, fun, what else? Why spend over a thousand dollars a year? Well, just call it a hobby. They don't need any justification.

*****

Bob Morris, JND:

Why publish? Because it's fun, and you meet lot of interesting folks, plus (and this is probably most important) you get to say exactly what you want to say. However, I've got to say that the general state of fanzines lately is grim - lots of clone-zines, precious few new ideas, every zine stakes out their little turf against all the posers.

Why are there so many interviews and reviews in zines? How about a few 'think' pieces every now and then. What's the relationship of underground music to the mainstream world? When's the last time you saw an article on that topic? What do YOU think the relationship of underground music to mainstream music SHOULD be.

Please, no more CONFLICT or LOW LIFE or BLACK MARKET clones. Those mags are good. Other editors should get their own ideas.

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Bob Clack, THE KANSAS INTELLIGENCER:

Doesn't every small publisher ask him/herself that question?

Vanity? Well yes. That's a necessary element but hardly sufficient.

Having fun? Spoof the reader? Spoof society? If we all harbored the talent of Mark Twain, wouldn't we all publish? Spoil the game if we did. Poets' disease. More writers than readers. Humor writers can really only address humor readers. One doesn't have to leaven writing with humor -- but it sure helps.

Mobilize the conspiratorists? Well maybe but the humorists and conspiratorists are mutually exclusive. (There are two classes of conspiratorists: those who want to join a

conspiracy and those who want to expose and destroy a conspiracy). I'll stand with the humorists.

Maybe there are small publishers who are only in it for the economic reward or, more likely, hope of economic reward but I doubt it. In every small publisher there must be, surely, an element of vanity that tells us we have the ability to generate and express thoughts which are simultaneously unique and significant. I don't mean unique or original ideas. After all there isn't very much new under the sun. But unique perspective on the way existing facts or events knit into the fabric of human thought? Yes, I think that comes pretty close to the mark. Hence each spontaneous paid subscription, excluding friends, relatives, and business associates, that comes in reinforces the basic impulse to publish. These subscribers don't have to agree with the publication content. Sometimes better if they don't. As long as we can engage a reader/subscriber at arms length and hold their attention, it releases a "feel good" chemical in the brain -- and it is highly addictive.

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Jerry Vile, FUN:

I publish because I was fat and wimpy in high school. Everyone beat me up. Even girls. I had a horrible complexion and my mother made me wear sissy clothes. Every time I came home crying she would make me a big plate of brownies.

Our high school coach called my Porky and laughed along when the kids picked on me. He was a sadistic homosexual. He also taught journalism. I always wanted to be a journalist. But I knew the terrible dark secret and was a chubby, lying pussy who did not belong in the same school as human beings.

I was in good shape after 'Nam. Of course there was no parade for me when I got back. They called me babykiller. My dad had a parade after World War II. He was fond of telling me the reason was because he was a winner, they don't have parades for losers. I floated from town to town, trying to adjust and keep from killing innocent babies.

I couldn't hold a job. I was desparate, suicidal. I turned to crime...A book of matches changed my life. "How About a Career In Publishing?" Thank God for the Acme Institute. It's a good job. I get to work with my hands without getting my fingers dirty. I have a nice car, a beautiful wife, and a set of power tools that every neighbor would kill his mother to use. It is almost like being a God.

*****

Sean Wolf Hill, TIME WORM & COUNTER CULTURE

All people crave the experience of extension into space. That is why people travel, send letters, write stories, and watch television or listen to radio. The modern world has given us ways to experience the extension into space, ways that are more accessible (maybe) than the older routes of meditation, mimetic ritualization, trance induction, hallucination, vision quests and so on. All of these things, including recording and photographing and painting, are also mostly extensions into time. Space has become obsolete. That is why I publish. When I send a magazine off, or send my writing, to someone "somewhere else" that person who receives it allows me to re-emerge thru them, to experience the same space they are filling. If this engagement is strong enough, I may also come to life thru them. When this happens, they become my channeller, they carry my life energy into their world. I send to them a seed of myself, product of my vision, sweat, hand-eye coordination and then it germinates in their body or mind and I arise within them. That's why I publish. Not to push thoughts, although thoughts are surely pushed. Not to make money, which never happens anyway. Not to become known or important, though to some I may be. I publish because of the thrill that happens when someone writes back to me and I sense in their letter that I passed thru them when they read Time Worm or Counter Culture or other of my books...thru them and out of them, breathed their breath for a while, felt their sensations, shared in their sorrows or good fortune. Mingled with them in a fuller way than if I didn't publish. I publish for this sensation of inhabiting a shared earth where distance in space and time is no obstacle, where there is no wall, no closed system that restricts my travel.

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Asha R. Coltman, Sleeping Giant & Bird of Life Mini-Novels:

Writers in this column frequently give as their number one reason that they like seeing their names in print. That's not one of our reasons for publishing -- in fact, we don't even put our names on our books. We like the privacy that comes with NOT being notorious...and anyway, the books are what's important.

We're excited by our idea of mini-novels of ideas and consciousness, just a couple of dozen pages long...and we love to see them reach people who are looking for something that takes them just that little bit farther.

We started Sleeping Giant in 1986 after chafing through six years of Reaganism, when it seemed to us the nation's leadership was hoodwinking the world...thus our first title was THE VAMPIRE KING, a mini about the exposure of a smiling tyrant who seems to be able to pull endless wool over oceans of eyes. A little later on, when we began getting neat ideas for stories about personal awareness, we started Bird of Life.

The mini-novels offer us ways to bring contemporary situations to life in a new, and we think startling, frame of reference. They have no room for beating around the bush...every story is an action story, even if it's contemplative.

So we publish because we're excited by doing this, and we're hearing back from readers (a number of whom have reached us through FF) who are excited by it too. These little works of fiction with the big horizons are going to continue to be contagious -- we hope -- thanks in part to you. Keep up the great work.

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Timothy Paxton, VIDEO VOICE:

There is one real reason for publishing anything in Oberlin...SOMEONE HAS TO DO SOMETHING IN THIS BACKWARD "LIBERAL COLLEGE" TOWN! The students talk, talk, talk and talk about publishing stuff (there are a few zines around) but most do nothing. It's pitiful. Unless the money comes out of your own pocket you don't publish. VIDEO VOICE started out as a six-page free zine...now it's a color-cover, 12-page free zine. I lose money with every issue. But who'll pay for something like this in Oberlin? The students sure as hell won't. So, it's a free publication. I publish my zine because I enjoy doing so. Joel, my brother, puts out ROOGASCROOGLE and I do VIDEO VOICE. While I have an art-poetry-horror-fiction zine in the works, it takes a lot of butt-kickin' to get ANYBODY to submit ANYTHING (I'm sure other publishers have heard lots of lame excuses from people who have promised articles but never, ever come through with them). But, hell, most publishing outfits I have come into contact with don't make a profit...they're lucky to ever come close on the publishing costs! When the deadline approaches each month for my zine, and I don't have everything I want done, I go into a panic. As usual, I have to write most of it. Those people who promised articles, etc., poop out on me. But with all this stress and agony that comes from publishing there is that blissful orgasm when you hold that first xerox-warm copy in your hands. Damn, that's a nice feeling!

"Head Games. That's all this business with grade point averages and IQ tests is all about. Why don't you tell them the Max theory?"

That's from Frank, and Frank emphasized that we don't play head games, that our horse doesn't play head games, our ducks and chickens don't play head games and our dogs have never played head games.

The IQ scene, the grade point scene is the one-upmanship scene and we doon't want any part of it.

But now to the Max theory.

Max is our family dog which we gave to Jim, the second son.

Max lives life. He is happy and carefree and doesn't worry about what happened yesterday, what will happen tomorrow, where we came from or where we are going. Max wants only one thing -- affection -- and he wants this more than food. To play with Max is to make his day.

Max's IQ? How can you possibly measure a dog's IQ when a dog has a different value system? Dogs don't gang up on other dogs and make war upon them. Dogs don't produce surpluses and then create artificial shortages so they can make a profit on them. Neither do our other animals.

Max isn't a conniving, scheming banker out to take over our home and he isn't a money-grubbing doctor who will take advantage of our misfortune in being sick.

But what Max has to offer surpasses anything many so-called high IQ people with high grade point averages can offer.

But so what? He is only a dog and the spread between his IQ and the lowest IQ human (according to OUR IQ tests which do not include the non-verbal tests Max might give us) has an IQ so far in advance of Max that any comparison is meaningless. However, we do know that the relative spread in IQ between "smart" and "dumb" people is relatively insignificant when all factors are considered.

With the exception of brain damage (perhaps caused by drugs and food additives) all of us have pretty much the same brain capacity, a capacity which in each one of us is barely tapped -- maybe only 1/10 of 1 percent of the brain is used.

So to IQ tests I say bosh -- double bosh and triple bosh.

Do your thing and enjoy life and you'll come out a winner.

Turning Over New Leaves of Grass

by Kerry Wendell Thornley

Nelson (if he is still alive, as I suspect) says these honest probes of the murders of politicians interfere with his personal privacy. For that reason, when I was living with _____ (called "Rockytop Tennessee") I was subjected to the most sadistic humiliation imaginable in bed -- because Nelson, I guess, wanted revenge (although Wilson, the Thortons and Ross were all also blamed).

"May the fleas of a thousand camels find your tent" was the inscription on a T-shirt of a guy in Arizona.

Yesterday, in reference to a discussion of Rockefeller.

Who started this Bolshevik bullshit to begin with, Nelson? Is it supposed to be my fault if you wind up in Siberia? A movement to enforce the Bill of Rights, although it would have been a charity, would've secured for all of us sanctity of our homes. Besides, what about MY privacy? Tough shit, I say, Nelson. Tough shit.

Don't think I'm any longer under the illusion that anyone else in the ruling class is any more magnanimous. You are ALL schmucks. So are your Russian henchmen who probably betrayed you for the Germans you conspired with to create them to begin with.

Some guy in the train station said today, looking at me: "He wants to take on every battalion in here."

I never expected to win.

My purpose in getting involved was to make it clear I'm not a C.I.A. agent -- so the people at The Bird would like me, and so that my son would not be ashamed of me if history wound up pegging me as an imperialist -- or rather, so it wouldn't. I was always willing to settle for a chapter in an anthology that included me with Goldman, Kropotkin, Proudhon, Stirner, Berkman, Malatesta, Rocker, et al.

I didn't want all THIS mess either. Your agent -- Jim Garrison -- was the one who called me a C.I.A. agent. Without him, I never would have thought about finding out who killed a liberal president, for Chrissakes. To me it was just another gangland murder. One mob of politicians hit somebody in a rival mob.

Somewhere there is a "Brown station wagon" with a "7515" misunderstanding on their part only. That would probably be CBS.

Today's "sheriff" is allegedly at "41 84 55".

Is bombarding me with "41=61" "buses".

Involving as many people as possible and getting rid of as much secrecy as possible is the only strategy I think will work. I've already been through nine years of crap. I can endure however much additonal crap that strategy takes.

SURROUND THE HONKIES!

People I vote to abort before birth, if anyone ever invents a time machine: Ignatius Loyola, Martin Luther, Carl Gustav Jung.

Jung, because it was his ideas that convinced O.S.S. types like Dulles that Naziism could be reformed, instead of having to be eradicated. Also because of his notions about symbols, responsible for all this vague, bizarre communication that goes on these days. I rue the day I ever complained about the limits of linear communication.

At least, in a linear essay, you can always say: see illustration. And it is at least precise. Condusting life-and-death struggles with only ink blots as forms of communication seems to me irresponsible.

The Tibetan School of Buddhist Embroidery: they talk enlightenment to death the same way Bookhead Buddhists talk sex to death.

That is always one way to murder something, of course. Spend 23 hours a day verbalizing about one hour of fucking a day. Take something that makes life worth living -- like screwing or sex -- and make an enormously, absurdly complicated problem out of it.

The Tibetans killed Buddhism that way and the Satanists are employing the same strategy to kill sex.

From an agenda discussion: "Well, shall it be first spermicide and then genocide that we discuss, gentlemen, or shall it be the opposite order?"

It begins with Bob Dylan's line: "I may look like Robert Frost, but I feel like Jesse James." It goes on, and on, and on, and so forth -- because next I wrote porn as Thomas

Howard, so as not to piss my feminist friends off unnecessarily. I felt like Jesse James, though I may have looked like Robert Frost. I was getting $70 and $60 a piece -- writing and jacking off at the same time, again. Then it got heavier, etc.

So anyway, it is Thursday night in The Pub. I sit breathless, having worked and hiked some distance to get here. Errands, etc. I drink my cofee in fret that they will frame some Communist for another crime. I read about Lyndon Johnson -- torn between two lovers: The Great Society and the Viet Nam War.

Ah, the sensitivity of politics.

Then I try to sit here and feel like anything else besides what I am -- a contributor to earthquakes, no better than a politician or statesperson.

The paradox of the philosopher-king dilemma is that if you try to think of yourself as a poet, you might make it worse.

(Roger Lovin asked me if I sucked cocks and wrote poetry. I told him I didn't write much poetry, I wasn't thinking about that at the time -- but it makes an appropriate illustration of my feelings at this time.)

I'm an anarchist and a sex pervert. I don't write much poetry. Who, though, are the war criminals?

(Don't try to tell me all the rest of them are anarchists and sex perverts.)

(Because if they were, then anarchism and sex perversion would be as indulged as war crimes are.)

Eris appeared to my Third Eye today and told me the Illuminati is a Whig Conspiracy.

Once a Sufi juggler looked into R.A.W.'s eyes in Berkeley and said something like, though not exactly like: "You will find out much."

Me, I just passed an evangelist in the Market Street civic center plaza area who was yelling: "There's no TIME to repent!"

I'm still trying to figure that one out. Somebody said he was an "Earth Felt African Illuminasus." That could've been Dianne Feinstein, though. (Bob Black could probably figure it out.)

Life is full of equally nagging tid-bits: "Box Car Slim and the Velvet Ass Kid headed west on their honeymoon." Contraband prune pits, I think of them as.

As in: "Now you don't know whether that policeman really did tear apart my car looking for a contraband prune pit or not, do you?" -- Michael Stanley

The riddle of epistemology.

There's a band here tonight. Beefheart Street, I think it is called.

John Morgan sent me two postcards today. That's his name. John Morgan. He sends me postcards. Today. Two of them. (I'll try to remember to glue them to the back of this notebook.)

One is a "Bob" manifestation, so certified by me, Jesse Sump, in my capacity as Calif., etc. The other is of three figures -- a large central one decimated. Something about you are going to be sorry if you kill Greyface and sorry if you don't, I guess.

Brings up the value of an objective standard of subjective evaluation -- in terms of "large" and "small". "He said his name was Columbus and I just said Good Luck." -- Dylan

As a Taoist I've never even been able to find a subjective standard of subjective evaluation. Omar Khayyam said something about willy-nilly wandering.

I could scam you and say I was being scientific. First you'd have to supply me with facts so I could prove it, though.

A book I'll probably never write: A sci-fi plot about space fish -- enormous creatures that come swimming out of the holes in space and bite holes in tail fins of rockets.

Like Cecil the Seasick Sea Serpent -- only with Captain Corbitt overtones.

THE CREATURES FROM THE BLACK HOLE IN SPACE.

The bigger ones swallow moons.

One swims to earth one day and begins nibbling at the stratosphere. The Angel Aerosol.

An anglefish, I guess.

A sequel I'll probably never write could be called THE DOLPHIN THAT NEARLY ATE THE WORLD.

"You folks maybe don't understand about how we do things here in Pittsburgh," said the Mayor.

History has but few interstices. I have called you together in this loophole today...

Bod Hipler found a hundred year old encyclopedia of religions that listed the Catholic Church and the Society of Jesus as separate faiths. (Make of it what you will.)

"Summer solstice to you, infidel." -- Hassan-i-Sabbah X

It sounds like Finnegan's Wake in here tonight. I always thing of -- who was it, Corso? -- that wanted to throw Kerouac's CORPUS out on the floor at the latter's funeral -- as a Zen gesture. I hope you fuck on my grave -- literally -- my friends. There's a book called CLOSING TIME I think me and Jimmy Carter both liked a lot.

(Ending as allusive as he began)

"It ain't easy being a goat's foot," quipped the midget.

Fred's Epistle to the Dallas Criminal Court Building.

[Aeditor's note: Here endeth TURNING OVER NEW LEAVES OF GRASS. Previous installments appeared in FF20,22,23 and 24. If you like Kerry's speculations and want to read more of them, his collected work NOTES OF A NEON GRINGO is available for $3 postpaid.]

Penned In

by Shane Williams

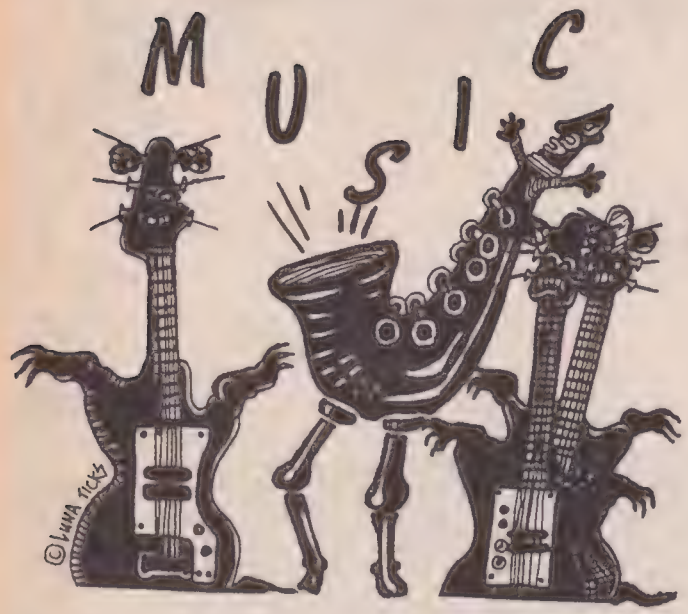
Could there be some connection between the overbearing usage of models in MTV videos and the release of Albini's version of Kraftwerk's "The Model" on a single prior to the final studio album, "Songs About Fucking"? The other night at a gig by all-girl band Mad Monster Party the singer Gwynne made a joke. The club she was performing at, the Raji's (one of LA's best), has a mirror behind the stage. She said she used to worry about panty lines showing, but she decided that if anyone was there to see them they ought to just go home and watch a White Snake video instead. Hey, I don't care if rock starts want to screw and/or marry models, but couldn't they spare us their romances as a visual scenario for their already ridiculous songs? And while I'm still ranting about videos I might as well mention that I finally got to watch MTV for the first time during my return journey of 5 months to the pen (I'm out again). Another ludicrous thing for me about them was watching bad (or at least not good) video by performers I collected records of in '74/75 -- namely Peter Gabriel and Robert Palmer. I hope people who like them now will go back and check out Gabriel's LP with Genesis before the world's worst superstar Phil Collins took over vocal chores and the earliest Palmer solo LP "Sneakin' Sally Through the Alley" which has the great New Orleans sound of producer Allen Toussaint.

Now on to a publication I'm sure Mike will probably review in its entirety - PANDEMONIUM II. [Only if Jack sends us a copy -- ed.] If you don't all remember the first (and what was thought at the time to be the only) issue featured letters from Burroughs, Bukowski and Manson reprinted without permission, along with interviews with John Waters the auteur and Goldstein the pornographer. Well, the second volume has a few rock and roll related moments that might go unnoticed if I don't point them out to you now. The low point is when one of my all time favorite actresses, Mary Woronov, who began with Warhol, then went on to Corman and Paul Bartel, says that Prince is her favorite music dude. Oh well, nothing's perfect. But the cool portion is that all the printed letters of kid killer John Wayne Gacy are written to two punkers, one being Mike Snyder who used to do the NEGATIVE ARMY fanzine and probably started speed metal by his early collaborations with Dave Mustaine who passed through Metallica. The other is Todd Horner, one of the Angry Samoans. Why these guys wrote Gacy can only be explained by the connections between punk and trash culture -- I mean, buying one of Gacy's clown paintings is pretty trashy. The other rock connection comes in the letters Squeaky Fromme wrote another punker in which she wanted to know more about Red Kross' usage of Manson imagery (not something they're likely to continue now that they've made it relatively big) and her polemic vis-a-vis Genesis P-Orridge of Throbbing Gristle and Psychic TV, and his own explanation of his usage of Manson imagery. So now you've got some real good reasons to buy something you ought to buy anyhow (if Jack ever gets all the copies back from the printer).

One of the most absurd things to happen to me since I've been back out (which will be spoken of at greater length in my column, Growing Up Absurd, in SPORADIC DROOLINGS) was when I was trying to get a ride home after a night out at a glam/gloom rock disco and ended up at the hotel room of LA's most popular glam metal band Guns and Roses (major label dude whose been touring with Crue, Alice, and Cult lately) and got to listen to hours of conversation between the singer Axl, and drummer Lars of Metallica, one of the biggest speed metal bands (one that makes it into Billboard's top 50 and whose most recent EP is all cover versions, including songs by punk band the Misfits and post-punkers Killing Joke). Everything I remember about what was said (unfortunately I didn't have my recorder with me) will be in an upcoming SUBURBAN VOICE. I couldn't catch everything anyways because I was being verbally accosted by a coked up-girl who is the daughter of one of the Monkees and who was going on and on about how weird it was to be asked for her autograph last year during the comeback tour just for being someone's daughter.

Last column I talked about the feud between LA rock tabloids. I'll soon be getting the other side of the story from the editor of ENDLESS PARTY, but I did find out the rival editor was going around to stores and shitcanning all the copies of her mag. By the way, since editor Mike slagged her rag last issue, I'd like to say that as shallow as it may appear (remember, Chris used to edit a photozine) it does voer most of LA's coolest bands and recently there was a lengthy two-part interview with the incredible painter Robert Williams who started in Zap Comix and now sells paintings for thousands. His notoriety in the rock world is based on the album covers he has appeared on recently, namely those of the Divine Horsemen and Guns and Roses.

In case you didn't notice, I'm back to doing music reviews again in FF, and if you read fanzines you'll be seeing reviews and other stuff from me in lots of places. It's funny, though I'm a musician myself I'm actually more excited about being able to do the journalistic thing -- because during those years in prison I was able to play in bands and perform, but had a bitch of a time getting material to review, and couldn't do live reviews or in-person interviews!



Reviews are by Carol Schutzbank (CS), Shane Williams (SW) or the Aeditor (MG), as indicated.

AFM, untitled (18 NW 100 St., Miami, FL 33150): Like everything else from AFM, this arrives by the whim of the creators, encouraged by your own creativity. This tape contains bits of several radio shows, mostly sounding like college radio, and with no original material beyond the announcer´s words. Mainly new wavish, featuring groups like Gene Loves Jezebel and Big Black. (T/MG)

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ALARMING TRENDS, "You Make Me Live in a Trailer" (1825 S. Clayton, Denver, CO 80210): We gave a cautiously good review to these guys way back in FF20, and that cassette makes up side 2 of this release. The first side fits in real well, and confirms my opinion that this is a band to watch; Rebecca Watson´s vocals, ranging from talky to screamy, hold the whole thing together, along with Ronnie Cramer´s high-power guitar. The best new song here is the outre "Mangled Nerve Center", which scrambles along twitching and pounding. Innovative rock that dares to explore. (LP/MG)

*****

ALIEN PLANETSCAPES, "Everyone´s Mad at Amerikka" (Harsh Reality Music, PO Box 241661, Memphis, TN 38124-1661): Atmospheric galactic escapades of the electronic type. Close your eyes and you can imagine yourself floating through some of the space scenes from 2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY. Creative and mood-setting, but tends to go on a bit long. More for fans of the genre than for the average listener. (T/CS)

*****

G.G. ALLIN & THE HOLY MEN, "You Give Love a Bad Name" (Homestead Records, PO Box 570, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-0570): This dude is notorious, but for both of you who don´t know, I´ll explain that he bills himself as "Public Animal #1", does a stage show combining masturbation, shit-flinging, and assault, and sings about rape and cunnilingus and dope and disease. The Holy Men are a driving back-up band made up of various New York regulars including Homestead chief Cosloy, and the music on this album is a cut up from what the Scumfucs used to make. But with songs like "Garbage Dump", "Tough Fuckin´ Shit" and "I´m a Rapist", G.G. is in the same old groove. (LP/MG)

*****

AMOR FATI/VANDAL X, "Against ´Nature´" (Flesh Records, PO Box 5040, North Bergen, NJ 07047): Amor Fati cares about words and concepts; each release is accompanied by printed matter replete with quotations. I don´t know that much about his collaborator Vandal X. Musically this record is a cross between esoteric experimentalism and industrial disco, though even where the beats could be called dance, the songs are always decent and not overly busy and offputting. A strong release, and I recommend that people who like to read and think get it, or at least order a catalog for a buck. (LP/SW)

*****

AUSTIN OUTER LIMITS, "1988 Radio Show Syndication Sampler" (3108 N. Lamar #205, Austin, TX 73705): AOL is an attempt to produce a syndicated radio showplace for new music. This tape shows off some of their stuff, with cuts from 8 fairly well-known groups. Most is pretty traditional; even the Dead Milkmen aren´t as funny as usual. But The Killer Bees reggae version of "Whole Lotta Love" is a trip. Limited quantities; if you´re a DJ they´d love to hear from you. (T/MG)

*****

BAD CHECKS, "Innocence" (Blackpark Records, PO Box 6115, Raleigh, NC 27608): Decent roots blues billy noise fest, almost clear enough to get tagged new wave. Lyrics aren´t wacky enough to be voodoo. I wouldn´t mind seeing these guys live, but both LA and Australia have a number of bands in the field that are more over the edge and thus more to my tastes. Not good enough to be great, but definitely OK. (LP/SW)

*****

THE BAGS, "Rock Starve" (Restless Records, El Segundo, CA 90245-2428): This kind of caught me by surprise, because they went from no publicity to a major label so fast. But this LP rocks throughout and could easily be by some Texas/LA blues garage band, or an Aussie band where the groove gets mined for a fortune over and over again. Excellent rock that isn´t metal or pop. (LP/SW)

*****

BIG DIPPER, "Heavens" (Homestead Records, PO Box 570, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-0570): This is a band that oftimes sounds reminiscent of other bands doing well on college radio (Smiths, REM, Dream Syndicate) -- in fact, the LP has a couple of cuts that are already getting heavy airplay, and deservedly so. I definitely recommend this band for people who like good pop or college rock. They´re in the top echelon of songwriters in the whole genre. Admittedly, it´s not something that someone who craves noise is going to go in for on a regular basis. (LP/SW)

*****

BLACK GIRLS, "Speechless" (Black Park Records, PO Box 5115, Raleigh, NC 27608): The title may be a wry comment on the state that critics will be left in. Dana Kletter´s enigmantic piano, Lee Johnson´s tough-edged voice and blistering acoustic guitar, and Hollis Brown´s beautiful violin and harmonies combine to make a sound that is fresh, innovative, intriguing -- and damned hard to write about. They do everything from ballads to near-punk to something suspiciously like swing, blurting out chunks of emotion and music that will make even the jaded sit up and take notice. Impossible to pigeonhole, more impossible to ignore. (EP/MG)

*****

THE BLANKS, self-titled ($8 from Bill Boyer, PO Box 1010, Birmingham, MI 48012): Reggae-tinged vibrant anarchist rock from Detroit, a hotbed of such activity. The Blanks are more into suggestive lyrics than outright polemics, and even more into producing thoughtful music you can dance to. Oddly enough, I´m most attracted to a couple of cuts that leave the most unsaid: "Chemical Distance" and "Just Living", both of which seem to aptly capture the futility of life without denying hope. Hey, these guys are good; if they can sound so upbeat living in Motor City, there´s got to be hope for the rest of us. (LP/MG)

*****

BLOODY MESS AND CO., "The Worst of Bloody Mess" ($4 from PO Box 1152, Greely, CO 80632): A must buy. 46 fuckin´ songs and poems that span the career of Bloody F. Mess, bastard son of GG Allin and Wendy O. Plus it includes his singovers on chestnuts like "White Christmas" and "Your Cheatin´ heart". The covers of these 90´s are signed; we´re talking instant collectors´ items, cause this is as cool as his musical ancestors. To quote the promo: "Play Loud! (and Bum Out)." (T/SW)

*****

BOX 1190, self-titled (Jim Quinlan, PO Box 1190, New York, NY 10009): 1190, like Quinlan´s previous project One Big Square Foot of Sod, is firmly entrenched in the artwork experimental scene. This is closer to Zorn than the Swans, but quite unique in its mix of fusion and nowave rock. I´m real glad I got in touch and I think anyone not scared off by the term "artrock" would be into this stuff. Not enough fusion to bum me, and I don´t like fusion. (T/SW)

*****

RIC E. BRADEN, "If/Then" ($4 from Rice Records, PO Box 7922, Olympia, WA 98507): This is minimalistic electronic music consisting of a lot of repetitive notes and sequences that is guaranteed to appeal to ultra fans only. Underneath the repetition can be found noise and music, but if you listen closely, even that follows patterns so that the entire release starts to become cyclical, closing in on itself with repetition, a sort of robotic Phillip Glass gone haywire. Some of my friends, upon hearing this, likened the experience to that of the Chinese Water Torture -- others asked where they could obtain a copy of the release. (T/CS)

*****

GLENN BRANCA, "Symphony #1 (Tonal Plexus)" ($9.25 from ROIR, 611 Broadway #725, New York, NY 10012): Yes, an actual symphony, although not written for traditional instrumentation. Instead, Glenn uses lots of special guitars, some killer percussion, and a few brass instruments to create a quite unique sound. With the exception of the third movement, which deteriorates into mindless noise, this is a great melding of genres, music that carries the listener along on a wave of complex rhythms and interwoven themes. (T/MG)

*****

MAE BRUSSELL, "World Watchers #829" ($5.50 from Tim Cridland, PO Box 85874, Seattle, WA 98145): Relatively well-known conspiracy theorist Mae Brussell has been talking on the radio weekly for a long, long time. Now, thanks to Tim, you can hear some of her theories, from her 10/28/87 show. She talks about the various assassinations and AIDS and Wall Street's machinations and the Nazis and the Commies and who knows what else, all wrapped up in a web of spies and lies that surrounds most of us entirely. Fascinating stuff, especially if you're the type who wants to know why others think we never landed on the moon. Complete with listener call-in portion, including some who are evidently clinically paranoid. (2 tapes/MG)

*****

BUTCH AND THE HOLY HAND GRENADES, "Vol. 1" ($6.50 from D. Hoskins, PO Box 348, Hawthorne, NJ 07507): Grunge rock, with howling, growling vocals over minimalist guitar tracks. This stuff will knock the fillings out of your teeth, even before the attack of the minor key synthesizers. As an added bonus, there is some found sound and expropriated music, as well as a minicomic titled "UGLY BOY" with melting drawings included. From the creator of the zine DAVOID. (T/MG)

*****

CASHMERE JUNGLE LORDS, "Oodjie-Boodjie Night-Night" (PO Box 4722, Richmond, VA 23220): Electric rockabilly salsa, and then some. This trio has taken eclecticism to whole new worlds of confusion, and as a result they're as hard to pin down as the subject of their ultimate song, "Los Blob". One thing's for sure, though, and that's that they know how to have a good time. From the cynical anti-hit "Radio" to the jungle surf-punk of "Mama La Bamba", these boys bear watching. Get it and dance. (LP/MG)

*****

COL. TOM & THE EPSTEIN BROS., "The Acid Disco Beer Keg Test" ($5 from Bill Weita, PO Box 257, Kent, OH 44240): Yow! I'm beginning to think it's time someone tested the drinking water in Kent; this isn't the first batch of strangeness to come from that locale. Col. Tom and his crew play a brand of psychedelic hoo-hah mixed with audio cutups -- old movies, commercials, clanks and squaks -- that will get your brain cells gibbering. Eclectic underground experimentation with SubGenoid-ethos overtones and a killer Hawaii 5-0 cover. (T/MG)

*****

CONE OF SILENCE, "Floyd the Fly - A Xmas Story" (2445 Rinconia Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90068): They didn't get this to me in time for a pre-season review, but this is a little play of Christmas cheer, with timeless lessons about the importance of money and love. In other words, they're hilariously sarcastic about the Xma$ season. I don't know about availability -- write 'em and ask. (T/MG)

*****

THE CONVERSATION, demo tape (1809 Prosser Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90025): Country-sounding rock anchored by a brace of guitars and Terri Z.'s riveting vocals. This may be a demo but it's better than a lot of finished products I've heard. The winning track is the final "Mistaken Impression," an extended tour through a love gone wrong that gives the whole band time to jam. (T/MG)

*****

COOL & THE CLONES, "Learn to Play" ($4 from Sound of Pig Music, Al Margolis, 28 Bellingham Ln., Great Neck, NY 11023): This is something close to a punk/jazz crossover. There's something like no-holds-barred free jazz here, too much dynamic range for comfortable listening but still real interesting and with solos for everyone -- and that's just on the first track. Later we get some creative dissonance when hardcore vocals entre the music; still later, there are near-blues and tortured strings. Not easily pigeonholed by any means and probably without an audience, COOL & THE CLONES are boldly going where few dare to follow. (T/MG)

*****

COPERNICUS, "Deeper" (Nevermore, Inc., PO Box 170150, Brooklyn, NY 11217-0005): Truly innovative performance/music. Copernicus spouts lyrics spontaneously in front of classical or jazz instrumentation also played spontaneously (there are some planned pieces, but they're less interesting). It takes a while, but once you're warmed to it, the effect is utterly, hypnotically riveting. This dude has one strange subconscious, and the musicians clearly love to jam. And it works together incredibly well! Comes with lyrics and detailed liner notes. Outside of any genre and definitely worth sampling. (LP/MG)

*****

CRAWLING WITH TARTS, "Haselrute" ($4 from ASP, 985 Pine St. #10, San Francisco, CA 94108): If I ever own a retail store, I'm gonna put this on the Muzak system. CWT plays long stretches of slowly varying instrumentation punctuated by wildly unexpected vocals: little stories, nonsense sounds, or chants about "Elephant Number One...Elephant Number Two-oo". The music is mostly synthesized and highly experimental, and the moods it creates vary all over the map. (T/MG)

*****

CRIMSON, "Ardas" (Invincible Productions, PO Box 13054, Phoenix, AZ 85002): This is #5 of this series of New Age tapes designed for specific purposes. "Ardas" features the Celtic harp of Kim Robertson and the crystal-clear vocals of Singh Kaur in folk-sounding music designed to help you find answers to tough problems. It didn't write my thesis for me, and the tape gets a bit monotonous after a while, but it is quite calming and pleasant. (T/MG)

*****

CROCODILE SHOP, "Head" (Susstones Records, PO Box 6425, Minneapolis, MN 55406): Featuring two members of the now-defunct MOD FUN, this is a sort of Brit-sounding guitar band. "Brit-sounding", these days, means that you can tell which instrument is which and that the singer sings instead of screaming. This debut is not particularly grabbing, but it's not a turn-off either, which makes them a band to watch for on college radio. (EP/MG)

*****

THE CUCUMBERS, self-titled (Profile Records, 740 Broadway, New York, NY 10003): The Cucumbers are one band that I expect to be giving well-deserved good reviews to for a long time to come. After a few bits of vinyl on the Fake Doom label, they've gotten out this slicker piece which manages to hone their jaunty pop style down perfectly. From the very first track, "My Boyfriend", Deena Shoshkes' vocals will propel you on to the dance floor, where you'll be whipsawed back and forth between sweetness and story, bouncing all the time. A pop classic on the first listen. (LP/MG)

*****

DECADENT VIEW, "Kaputt" (1 Palmerston Rd., London E17 6PQ, ENGLAND): A release from a Brit band that is neither peacepunk like Crass or Conflict or metalcore or thrash-influenced like Concrete Sox or The Stupids. 77ish punk updated for the 80s. It's very possible that they'll have cuts out on a resurrected Mystic, but meanwhile write to Mitch at the above address with a fistful of IRCs and news or music from your own scene. (T/SW)

*****

DISTURBED, demo tapes ($5 from PO Box 6001, Minneapolis, MN 55406): Self-indulgent tediously-extended metal, poorly recorded. About the only redeeming feature here is that some of the music is so bad it's good; this particularly applies to "Monster Metal Madness", an entry in the Bloom County contest for Boingers songs. But as that's a high point, there's not much reason to listen to the rest of these tunes. (2 tapes/MG)

*****

THE DOCTOR'S CHILDREN, "King Buffalo" (Restless Records, PO Box 2428, El Segundo, CA 90245-2428): It would be easy to dismiss these guys as just another bunch of British whiners, suitable only for extended play on late-night college radio. But hidden in among the stereotypical slok are a couple of rare gems that bounce around and extend the limits of the genre through innovative musicianship and fancy playfulness -- notably the 5-minute plus "Baby Buddha" that starts off deliberately slow and builds to a rollicking conclusion. Listen for the singles. (LP/MG)

*****

DRUID, "Four Curses" (Hey Do It Music, PO Box 241, Groton, MA 01450): A killer heavy rock offering that is primarily marred by the association of satanism with the Druids -- but I guess we can't all be historians. The standout track is "Legion (The Exorcist)", a Blatty-inspired hard-driving song that will make your head turn in circles. Sabbathoid guitar work prevails. (EP/MG)

*****

THE DURUTTI COLUMN, "Live at the Bottom Line New York" ($9.25 from ROIR, 611 Broadway #725, New York, NY 10012): ROIR specializes in live performances by artists in various stages of their careers: reunions, vanished groups, and others

hanging on past their prime. Vini Reilly, he who is Durutti Column, is in this last category. His first LP, in the 70s, was more vital though no less atmospheric than this tape, which is insipid "New Age" music. For those of you who do like "pretty" music, you ought to buy this and at least support a worthwhile label instead of some dilettante New Age composer. (T/SW)

*****

EEZEEQEEL & BLOODY BLOODSTONE, "Lines of Oppression" (Capricorn Entertainment Services, PO Box 15921, Philadelphia, PA 19103): White-boy reggae with some alternate-universe lounge lizard piano playing thrown in for flavor. Lots of strange counterpoint vocals; too many of them in fact, as the songs tend to drag. The lyrics have a punk but obscure feel to them. Side 2 closes with a long back-masked message which, however, I lack the means to decipher. (EP/MG)

*****

ELECTRIC BLUE PEGGY SUE AND THE REVOLUTIONIONS FROM MARS, "You Tell Me That It's Revolutionion" (Gaga Goodies, Box 361, 00121 Helsinki, FINLAND): The mail order from people also involved with SISUBEAT and RATBEAT, so don't hesitate to send money. Of all their stuff this is the punkiest as in psycho garage music. Two things to watch out for: it's a 12" 45 RPM with ten cuts, so don't waste time listening to it at 33 like I did. Second, be advised the it will set you back $11 by mail including air postage, so you might want to send a few IRCs for their catalog or check out the import stores first. (LP/SW)

*****

THE EX, "Too Many Cowboys" ($10 from Mordam Records, PO Box 988, San Francisco, CA 94101): An impressive package of socially-conscious punk: two records, a newspaper full of good causes, and a lyric sheet. Musically these guys are great; they run the gamut from moody introspective pieces to near-thrash, but don't neglect the lyrical message; they have time to play and to say. Socially they're for all the right causes: animal rights, freedom, no work, and no war, among others. Lyrically, well, here's Dumbo: "My name Dumbo/Me are movie-star/Me called hero:/First blood, then talk". Great stuff whether you're a punk or a peacenik. (Dual LP/MG)

*****

FAIL SAFE, self-titled (PO Box 5295, Succ. B, Montreal, Quebec H3B 4B5, CANADA): Consistently interesting hardcore on this 11-song disk with lyrics included. The bass player Ewan writes the majority of the music, which is perhaps why it h as a very rhythmic feel. The lyrics seem more persinal than doctrinaire, a good sign of healthy minds in this project. A little bit reminiscent of No Means No, but more straight ahead, and for my money as good or better. (LP/SW)

*****

THE FLOWERPOT MEN, "Watching the Pharoahs" b/w "Jo's So Mean" (Link Records, 227 CHurch St., New York, NY 10013): While the jacket indicated that there were two songs to be found on this release, a listen to the vinyl yielded only one song on two sides. Not that I was unduly upset; the song, "Watching the Pharoahs", is catchy and enjoyable, a tune that immediately grabs your attention by melding the requisite dance floor Anglophiliac darkness with aggressive guitar and driving rhythm. (45/CS)

*****

GANG GREEN, "Skate to Hell" b/w "We'll Give it to You" (Roadracer Records, 225 Lafayette St. #709, New York, NY 10012): Issued as a skateboard-shaped picture disc (and a fine picture it is; reminds me of the rogues I went through high school with) this is two parts collector's novelty and at best one part music. Take a teenage paean to drinking and skating and add a liberal portion of noise, heavy on the guitars, and you have GG. Get this to hang on the wall instead of to play. (45/MG)

*****

GEKO, demo tape ($3 from Carah Productions, 833 1/3 N. Formosa, Hollywood, CA 90046): Pronounced like the lizard's name, which was the original name before it proved to belong to a lounge jazz band. Despite the lizard motif, this is the kind of gloom that is anything but creepy crawly. It's far too beautiful for that. Something like punk-influenced ambient or garage gloom, but the bottom line is a band that can stir the soul in a way that is peaceful without ever being soporific. And the lyrics are worth reading too, poetic in a way that cool lyrics can be and poems rarely are. If you only send for one demo tape this year let it be this one. (T/SW)

*****

KEYVAN GOLESTANEH, "ClubCrack" ($4 from Crack Music, 41 1/2 E. Main #4, Champaign, IL 61820): Imagine Joy Division gone industrial. There's potential to be found here, but unfortunately it's not highlighted enough in the music. THe majority of the songs are too derivative to be enjoyed for any length of time. The arrangements are well executed and rhythmic; while you're aware of that, you're also aware of how much more they could have been enjoyed had they been a little more creatively prepared. (T/CS)

*****

GREAT PLAINS, "Sum Things Up" (Homestead Records, PO Box 570, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-0570): This music is getting popular on lots of college stations along with label mates BIG DIPPER, but this is even nerdier stuff. Not without merit, but the joy I used to get from LOVE TO THE FIFTH POWER off their first LP has yet to come back with any of these cuts. I wish these guys success, since I feel like I know them from endless reading of the OFFENSE NEWSLETTER out of their home town, but this doesn't rock enough for me to play it much. (LP/SW)

*****

THE GREAT SCOUTS, "Diamond Boat" b/w "Camouflage" (Howling Gaelic Records, 57 Stanton St., New York, NY 10002): It sounds like this group has some potential, but the four or five minutes here doesn't allow them to develop it. The A Side is basically devoted to proving that they can play guitars and bang on trash cans at the same time. The B side is more introspective and melodic, suitable for late nights at college -- but if they can't stand out beyond that, why bother? (45/MG)

*****

THE HATERS, "anational" (X-Kurzhen Music, 2074 Jackson Ave., Memphis, TN 38112): Music for exacerbating any hangovers you might have. Not as heavy/dense/loud as most industrial, but still not very accessible. The major component of this is nearly white but rhythmic noise, at times reminiscent of breaking glass, earthquake rumblings, or just plain static. 4 songs, but I can't tell them apart. This is a product of G.X. Jupitter-Larsen and no easier to love than his verbo-visual work. (T/MG)

*****

Baboon Dooley Rock Critic
Baboon is told he is not all that interesting a person!
The underground is in danger of collapse!
God Dooley, you're such a bore.
Yak
Blah
A bore! You don't know what's really interesting cuz you got a short attention span!
No. I think I've got a good idea of what it's all about.
Gag
Wheeze
Boredom is what occurs when the petty diversions of life are no longer enough to block out the sad contemplation of the primary and unavoidable threat to human contentment which is decay and death.
I make you think of death?
your face Baboon is nothing less than a crack in the gates of my personal hell.
Snort
Harrf
©John Crawford

THE HATES ´88, "Xenophobia: The Sixth EP" (Christian Arnheiter, 4200 W. 34, Box 132, Houston, TX 77092): Not to be confused with the above destructo-experimentalists or Bloody Mess and his band the Hates. These guys have been doing the punk rock thing for a long time, and this EP is right in the track of the first 5. Very solid punk rock, though the vocals are mixed a bit too far forward. I´m not sure whether they are pro or con on the title subject; lyrics are included but they´re relatively opaque. Appropriate punk cogitating music regardless. (T/SW)

*****

THE HENRY ARMY OPERA CO., "Four Manly Epics" (Sir Richard Duckworth, 330 E. 63rd St., New York, NY 10021): Certainly the only gay opera company that I know about. The music is appropriately operatic and bombastic, which makes the lyrics a tad difficult to decipher in places, but also leads to a very lush, full, almost manic quality to the production. I recognize borrowings from G&S and the Three Blind Mice, but the point here is rather political: "I Rape Hardhats", the last of the four numbers here, is particularly explicit. The troupe also performs live if you can get to NYC. (T/MG)

*****

INTENSIVE CARE, "They Thought They Were Free" ($7 from Fresh Sounds, Inc., PO Box 36, Lawrence, KS 66044): 80´s college-radio rock from North Carolina -- in other words, there´s nothing here to shred your speakers or send your pets to cower in a corner. In fact, there´s not a whole lot to listen to that stands out. Lead singer Chris Peigler has a pleasant voice but it takes more than that to make a good band. (LP/MG)

*****

IT ATE GRAMMA´S CAT, "Audio Assemblages" (PO Box 257, Kent, OH 44240): 6 years worth of instrumental stuff by quite a few guys. Some of it is lush film style, some is delayed dueling guitar, some is actually treated vocals or background subliminal vocals. More experimental music for your consideration. Americana-based song titles include "Late Night TV 1,2, and 3" and "Eat Potatoes". (T/SW)

*****

JESTERS OF DESTINY, "In a Nostalgic Mood" (Metal Blade Records, 18653 Ventura Blvd. #311, Tarzana, CA 91356): The good news is that these guys are closer to hard rock than metal. The bad news is that this collection of covers is pretty abysmal. From an uninspired "Foxy Lady" to a rather sludgy "Fortunate Son" to a simply flat "The Girl Can´t Help It", these guys just don´t get close to the energy of the originals. (LP/MG)

*****

BEVERLY JOHNSTON & JAMES CAMPBELL, "Impact" (Centrediscs, 20 St. Joseph St., Toronto, ONT M4V 1J9, CANADA): Not only are the artists listed on the cover of this release, but so are the composers, an unusual arrangement that makes total sense upon listening to the material. The music is as much the composer´s as the artist´s interpretation of it. The overall impression is one of classical experimentation, of new age music gone awry. There are no happy, easy to listen to pieces here; instead you have music that is rich with mood, texture and fiery strength. Calm here is calm before a storm -- an instrumental eruption of sound. Each piece reflects the individual composer, but together they form a beautifully orchestrated whole. (LP/CS)

*****

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KONSTRUKTIVISTS, "Live at the King Charles" ($5 from Harsh Reality, PO Box 241661, Memphis, TN 38124-1661): The first overseas band to have a tape out on Harsh Reality. This is about their third full-length (60 minutes in this case), at least on this label. Though the name doesn´t give it away, I think they´re British; at least this tape is of a live gig in Britain. It´s properly moody, ominous, and consistent. A great set and yet another worthwhile release on one of the country´s best tape labels. (T/SW)

*****

THE LADDS FROM BELLEVUE, "A Relative Distance" b/w "Till the Stroke of Dawn" (Stanton Park Records, PO Box 58, Newtonville, MA 02160): Sixties-flavored rock fronted by the ably schlocky vocals of Aram Heller. Though the PR claims they were formed to play cover songs, both of these tunes have ´87 copyrights. Be that as it may, they sound 60s indeed; the same clunky arrangements, the same vocal posturing that most listeners have long since moved beyond. A joke that didn´t work for me. (45/MG)

*****

LADIES AGAINST WOMEN, "An Evening of Consciousness Lowering" (Plutonium Players, 1600 Woolsey St., Berkeley, CA 94703): Wickedly funny stuff from the emperor´s clothes school of humor. L.A.W. are a comedy group that concentrate on teaching women to get along in the eighties. Though taped from the stage, most of this does fine as audio. Best bets: the "Six Demands, er, Requests" including one for "Procreation, not Recreation!" and Rev. Fallout proclaiming that "An open mind is the Devil´s workshop". This isn´t generally available yet, but they´re looking for an album label, and I think there must be someone out there in FF-land who can help. (T/MG)

*****

D.J. LEBOWITZ, "Beware of the Piano" (Fowl Records, PO Box 1821, San Francisco, CA 94101): Can you possibly imagine a ragtime version of a Kevin Seconds song? If not, you´ll have to get this. D.J. is sort of a punkoid Tom Lehrer, taking an evening break from endless hours of bar piano playing to cut loose with a medley of punk covers and strange originals. "Greedy Little Monsters" was the perfect song for Halloween this year ("Have some cookies dipped in Lysol!") while my dogs cocked a critical ear at "The Barking Song". A must for the demented. (LP/MG)

*****

MECHANICAL BRIDE, "37 Senses" b/w "100 Million More" ($4 from Staccato Dysdain, 1230 Grant Ave. #105, San Francisco, CA 94133): Well, the world´s not out of hippies yet. The flip side of this pink vinyl, psychedelic-sleeved record is a call to action to stop Third World genocide; it ends (or rather doesn´t) with an endlessly-repeated demanding siren. The A side is more folky and laid back, designed to give a little hope to the battered listener. Probably better with drugs. (EP/MG)

*****

MECHANICAL BRIDE, "Lullabye" b/w "Keep Walkin´" ($2 on black or $4 on white vinyl from Staccato Dysdain, 1230 Grant Ave. #105, San Francisco, CA 94133): The A side is pretty much of a snoozefest, but "Keep Walkin´" is fair psychedelic pop. The cover sleeve is in psychedelic pink and black. Not an essential purchase, but for collectors the sleeve would be nice to own. I can conceive of future releases being even more worthwhile. (45/SW)

*****

MEKONS, "New York" ($9.25 from ROIR, 611 Broadway #725, New York, NY 10012): After a dozen listens, I´m still fascinated by this recording. It´s a combination club performance and tour, with bits of interview and ambient madness interspersed with the music. The Mekons have an indescribable style that wraps up the Irish jig and Tex-Mex and zydeco accordion and sloppy punk playing into a foot-tapping, body-bouncing whole that seemingly never pales. Most of the lyrics are sort of downers -- the cover of "The Shape I´m In" is almost cheerful by contrast -- but the music belies this. A strange trip through a new musical dimension. (T/MG)

*****

MEMORIAL GARAGE, self-titled (225 Meads Mt. Rd., Woodstock, NY 12498): This tape ranges from Southern Pop to British Gloom with a vocal style that reminded me of another cool project, Chris Rael´s stuff that´s been reviewed in these pages. Think eclectic but not harsh. (T/SW)

*****

MENTAL ANGUISH, "Bloodbath" ($5 from Harsh Reality, PO Box 241661, Memphis, TN 38124-1661): This is labelmaster Chris Phinney´s solo project. As with many of the label´s releases the soundtrack potential is enormous. The tape is dedicated to the memory of several individuals, so no doubt a mood is being sought to remember them. So as with all music, but especially experimental music, this is a personal frame of mind being explored. The most consistent of the MA tapes I´ve heard to date. Good creepy stuff. (T/SW)

*****

MERCYFUL FATE, "The Beginning" (Roadracer Records, 225 Lafayette St. #709, New York, NY 10012): For fans this is a "must have", as it contains tracks from three different '82-83 sessions. Judging by the pics on the back a couple of these guys must have been ten years old back then. This is speed metal with death lyrics. Too bad their label spoiled it by putting anti-drug propaganda on the cover. This is just fair stuff, with some annoying vocals and riffs that are pedestrian next to Mettalica or Celtic Frost. (LP/SW)

*****

CHRIS MEZZOLESTA, "The Hate Album" (GGE Records, PO Box 5088, Kent, OH 44240): A concept album with many cuts that could slide right into the Dr. Demento Show. Chris takes a side each to argue for and against hate in a medley of styles. Most notable are the twangy C&W of "Asshole Rednecks" and the extended rock of "Hate Breeds Hate". A fun little polemic. (T/MG)

*****

MILA, "Sky Without End Concert Guitar" (Invincible Music, PO Box 13054,,Phoenix, AZ 85002): For those with little time to spare, call this New Age music and move on to the next review. For those with a little time and interest, there's a lot more here than the term "New Age Music" has come to imply. Yes, there's a flowing, lyric quality to the music that we expect from most New Age releases, but there's more depth and innovation with the guitar than most such releases display. The music itself is universal in theme and appeal, but with a strong Spanish flavor enhanced by the twist of a string or pluck of a chord. Ethereal in nature, earthy in soul, entertaining in heart. (T/CS)

*****

MOSAIC, "New Blue" (Invincible Music, PO Box 13054, Phoenix, AZ 85002): A New Age/Jazz fusion by two brothers, which leads to a mostly quiet and relaxed sound, even for jazz. Of course, there are exceptions, like "Eastern Door", a bouncy, upbeat, complex and building song -- then, abruptly, the door slams and silence rolls across the room. Light listening, but not annoying. (T/MG)

*****

THE PAISLEY-HUED EUCALYPTUS CORKSCREW PAVILLION, "blossoms" (Christopher Smith, 5420 Veloz Ave., Tarzana, CA 91356): A massive production, 3 90-minute tapes with dozens of songs. This is mainly synthesizers, electronics and found noise, along with much innovative percussion -- sort of like Spike Jones without the jokes. Sometimes there are whining or howling vocals, sometimes extended passages of beautiful flute music, with all the time in the world to develop. Ranges from beautiful harmony to planned dissonance, and displays a cheerfully playful mood towards creating music. (T3/MG)

*****

PANDA MANIA, self-titled (PO Box 5042, Redwood City, CA 94063): Complexly-textured rock with a plethora of interwoven sounds. The PM crew of five, headed up by Diana Entriken's vocals and her and David Womack's guitars, wanders around the stylistic map while staying close to the pop end of things. The lyrics tend to be cryptic but intriguing, like those of "Probe", confounding the goddess Venus with what we now know of the planet of the same name, or a couple of other songs that look at relationships in trouble. Dense and rewarding listening. (LP/MG)

*****

PARADOX, "D Unofficial Motz Art" ($7 from Eli Talgam, Neve Yaakov 421/15, PO Box 27446, Jerusalem, ISRAEL): Undistinguished synthesizer noodling mixed with some distorted radio. Mostly it's disconneccted experiments, estended trials with a single not or sound -- too disjointed to be anything other than harsh and grating. The B Side ends up with some more traditional instrumental covers, including a decent version of "Scarborough Fair". (T/MG)

*****

PARADOX, "Product of Imagination" (Roadracer Records, 225 Lafayette St. #709, New York, NY 10012): Not at all the same as the above, this is a youthful German heavy metal band. They play with a fair bit of elan and at pretty high speed, and occasionally the keyboard effects take them away from the mold. Song topics include the gods of Asgard and the need to nuke the Soviet Union -- not the sort of liberal or even occultist stuff you'll find in most bands these days. (LP/MG)

*****

CLIVE PIG, "A Sense of the Size of the World" (Hopewell Records, PO Box 104, Hopewell, NJ 08525): Clive Pig is an oh-so-very-British pop performer. The music here is vaguely reminiscent of Billy Bragg in that it features minimal instrumentation -- a couple of guitars on some tracks, nothing but voice on others. But Pig doesn't use his music to get across heavy political messages; this is straight entertainment, with catchy lyrics and jumpy tunes. (LP/MG)

*****

DAVE PRESCOTT, "Red Shift Part 3" 199 Strathmore #5, Brighton, MA 02135-5210): My office mate dubbed the A side of this "vacuum cleaner music", though I think it sounds more like a food processor. There might be some muddled vocals mixed with the pure outer-space tones over the murky static-filled background. The flip tends towards more organic motifs: buzzing insects and screeching birds mix with water-dripping percussion. (T/MG)

*****

PUZZLEHOUSE, "13 Reasons" and A DYING GYMNAST, "Vogue Models in Bondage" (Scott Munroe, 119 Sherman Ct., Fairfield, CT 06430): Scott is deep in the fanzine wars, having incurred the wrath of Cosloy. But this is enjoyable music, with DG being Scott's one-man experimental project and Puzzlehouse a band he was part of. Now he's moved on to a more punkoid outfit, Shrieking Void of Emptiness. I find the old stuff eminently listenable, and it's interesting the progression he's made from experimental to postpunk to punk, instead of vice versa. (T/SW)

*****

RAGGED BAGS, "Let's Go To The Mars" ($3.50 from Whitewall Tapes, 963-B Snowfall Spur, Akron, OH 44313): Sloppy raw rock with a slow dirgelike beat in a lot of places. Many songs here go on too long for a tape, though they may not have been excessive in a live setting. There are even some jams that get cut off by the tape running out, as this is an archival version of several smaller releases. Overall, this is punk imrpvo, with more energy than talent but flashes of innovation. (T/MG)

*****

RATTUS, self-titled ($4 from BCT, PO Box 16205, San Diego, CA 92116): Hardcore punk from overseas -- Finland, to be precise, as part of BC Tapes' program to internationalize the genre. Rattus play fast and loud (though some of the songs slow down to near-ballad tempo) and with straightforward guitar-laden instrumentation (though a harmonica does check in once or twice). But the words are, of course, indecipherable. Slightly marred by muddy sound but still an itneresting item. (T/MG)

*****

THE RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS, "The Uplift Mofo Party Plan" (On EMI - contact Lindy Goetz Management, 927 Kings Rd. #314, West Hollywood, CA 90046): Funky white-boy rap from these masters of the crazed -- don't miss their "True Men Don't Kill Coyotes" video if you ever get the chance. Anyhow, this record features a "Secret Song" with explicit lyrics, a great cover of "Subterranean Homesick Blues", and enough originals to pound the RHCP philosophy right into your brain. Uplifting stuff without a message other than "Party Hearty". (LP/MG)

*****

RHYTHM RATS, "I Wanna Spend the Night With Vanna White" b/w "Broken Dreams" (Glitch Records, PO Box 4429, Austin, TX 78765): It's sort of novel to get a record with clear lyrics around here -- or one quite this topical. The Rats are a bluesy trio of Texas boys, and they play good solid music. The A side is playful without being crass; the B side is typical genre schmaltz, but it's well-done genre schmaltz. (45/MG)

*****

RIO BISBEE BAND, "Upsetter" (Yosarian, RFD 279, Rockland, ME 04841): Fast-paced funky country-tinged rock. The tape is a mix of fairly maintream numbers, local interest, and strange protest songs. "Enforcement" is a slap at the government: "Government is a dinosaur/if there were no enforcement/there'd be no crimes". "Medication" hits on another aspect of our crazy drug laws. Fun good-old boy music. (T/MG)

*****

KIM ROBERTSON, "Celtic Christmas" (Invincible, PO Box 13054, Phoenix, AZ 85002): Wonderful Celtic Harp music. If you've never heard one you might find it hard to imagine the cool and crisp notes they can produce. This tape is a collection of traditional songs, many from Europe, though Americans will recognize some -- "The First Nowell" and "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen" among them. The only accompaniment is the occasional bell or flute note, no vocals. Makes me want to start up a nice fire and brew some cider with cinammon. (T/MG)

*****

SDT, self-titled (SDT/Paradox, 1813 C St., Iowa City, IA 52240): Playing this record is like getting sucker-punched. I expected punk from the cover, but little did I dream that Iowa would produce such fast, full, loud playing. The A side is an instrumental, "Eleven Parts", that really shreds; the flip contains a couple of songs ("In a Groove" and "I'm Alright") that add blistering vocals to the supersonic rock. (45/MG)

*****

SEA MONSTERS, "Liquid Lunch" (Fear of Money Ltd., 494 S. Ocean Ave. #2L, Freeport, NY 11520): This is a self-released EP, with the song "Sex God Chant" being a ringer for Bauhaus' version of Eno's "Third Uncle". On the other side is a Red Hot

Chili Peppers type of rock funk dance number. This would fit in at LA's Scream club, a place where glam, gloom and old rock mix. Nothing too experimental here, but nothing too lame either -- obviously hoping to follow in the successful footsteps of Love and Rockets or The Cult. (EP/SW)

*****

ELLIOTT SHARP, "In the Land of the Yahoos" ($7.50 from SST Records, PO Box 1, Lawndale, CA 90260): The Yahoos were of course the uncultured human brutes looked down on by the horselike Houyhnhnms in GULLIVER'S TRAVELS. If Sharp plays a lot of stuff like this it's easy to see why he feels surrounded by Yahoos; his music is not just difficult but practically inacessible. Loosely informed by jazz sensibilities, it is an abrasive meld of new and traditional instruments, electronic tricks, processed voices, and synthesizers. Definitely not for anyone without a lot of time to learn new things to appreciate. (LP/MG)

*****

ELLIOTT SHARP, "Tesselation Row" (SST Records, PO Box 1, Lawndale, CA 90260): Sharp has long been known as a composer and performer who knows no limits in his music. His experimental compositions and performances have made a name for him in the avant-garde. In TR, the compositions and productions are his, the performance is by the Soldier String Quartet. Utilising violins, cello, and contrabass, the band does an admirable job of dealing with less than admirable music. On occasion Sharp's creativity shines, and the whole release basks in the glow. Unfortunately it's not consistent, and for the most part this sounds like an orchestra tuning; the listener keeps waiting for the show to begin, but it never does. (EP/CS)

*****

THE SILOS, "About Her Steps" ($6.98 from Independent Label Alliance, PO Box 594m, Bay Shore, NY 11706): Classic American heartland rock to meet or beat anything you'll hear on the radio. Though the production on a few of the 8 songs here is a bit spotty, there's nothing you'll want to avoid. Better yet, the unlikely love song "Susan" and the wistful closing number "Heart & Soul" are instant classics, things I'll be listening to again. The best of a uniquely American art form. (T/MG)

*****

SISTER BREEZE, "Riddym Ravings" ($9.25 from ROIR, 611 Broadway #725, New York, NY 10012): An interesting release that yielded more with each listen. SB is more of an aural communicator than a reggae performer; "Riddym Ravings" should be considered more of a performance piece with spoken word and reggae music than a straight reggae release. Regardless, the music, performed by an accomplished set of artists, is smooth and flowing, and never loses step with the good Sister, who tops it off with her artful and insightful observations. One can almost imagine this in a small cafe theatre filled with art and music types keeping time while discussing the points being made. (T/CS)

*****

JOJO ST. MITCHELL, "Toy Bomb" (96 McGregor Downs, W. Columbia, SC 29169): This 7 song demo sounds like it was done with toys and it bombed in my ears. Like a much more amateuish Gary Numan or John Foxx, but fans of those two might want to encourage Jojo to keep at it. (T/SW)

*****

TOP JIMMY AND THE RHYTHM PIGS, "Pigus . Drinkus . Maximus" (Restless Records, PO Box 2428, El Segundo, CA 90245-2428): LA's best rhythm & blues band -- that ironically came out of the punk scene. This LP is mainly cover songs, with cuts from Willie Dixon, Howlin' Wolf, Hendrix, Merle Haggard, Dylan and more. Produced and with horns from Steve Berlin of Los Lobos, the record is full of guest appearances by LA scenesters from X and other bands. But even if this was an LP by unknowns from Badmouth Idaho it would be the equal of the better Alligator Releases of 80's R&B. (LP/SW)

*****

TRAINED ATTACK DOGS, "Pizza" (Rave Records, PO Box 40075, Philadelphia, PA 19106-5075): A 4-song EP from a Philly band with a wide range. What else can you say when the bass-heavy dirge of "Flamehead" is followed by the country-punk "Wish-I-Owned a Gun". Fans of political correctness look elsewhere; this is morbid love on the rampage. But it doesn't rampage all that hard. (EP/MG)

*****

THE TRUST, "American Fire" (DDM, PO Box 1430, Rockefeller Center, New York, NY 10185): Straight-up American roots rock that sounds like it's from the Great Plains instead of the big city. The record has a curious structure: the hard-driving guitar licks, on the title cut (a sneer at obnoxious patriotism) and "Dig", are in the middle of the playlist, and the quiet numbers close things out, so they don't so much leave you panting as go out with a whisper. But it does leave one wanting more of their brand of sincerity, so maybe it's not such a bad decision after all. (LP/MG)

*****

TYGER TYGER, "My Baby's Eyes Are Black" b/w "Turn Around and Walk Away" (Burning Bright Records, PO Box 27045, Providence, RI): Well, these guys can play all right, but they need to learn a few things about making records. The production level is low enough on this one that I can't tell you much more than that it's catchy -- the pressing is too bad for me to want to play many times. There's a reason most new bands start with cassette releases. Undistinguished pop. (45/MG)

*****

UHF ENDEAVORS ($6.95 from PO Box 28543, Providence, RI 02908): A collection of cryptic texts, both audio & visual, as a 32-page booklet is included. Some of eaoh are maddeningly repetitive, but that's to be expected in a leisurely format allowing the artists to take their time with extended improvs, with lots of synths & horns. The B side of the tape is closer to traditional punk and protest music, with one song featuring the lyrics "Eat, sleep, work, work, work..." over a frenzied excessive Soundtrack of DOOM. (T/MG)

*****

UNDERCURRENT, "Industrial Si'ence" ($4.99 from Bill Jaegar, Phoenix, AZ 85541): Experimental/industrial music with a twist: no synthesizers were used in its production. Instead, the reliance is placed on found sounds, some processed, some not, and various vocal noises. Things build slowly, and a sense of grace pervades. Comes with an 8-page booklet of collages and drawings. (T/MG)

*****

URBAN AMBIENCE, "Music of the Moment" ($6.75 from Camaraderie Music, PO Box 403, Kenmore Stn., Boston, MA 02215): This duo mixes music and technology into free improvisation. The tape starts off with a bleating off-hook phone sound, and spends the rest of the time moving between the melodic and the jarring. Loosely structured, parts build to deliberate crecendos while others just sort of wander around. One side is studio, the other live -- there might be some flubs on the latter, but it's hard to say. Melody and noise in an intriguing package. (T/MG)

*****

Various Artists, "Discpan Hands" (Rave Records, PO Box 40075, Philadelphia, PA 19106-5075): A Philly comp of mainly hardcore/metalcore bands. The best known are Homo Picnic and McRad. Tons of Nuns come closest to the 60s garage punk sound, and the Balls come the closest to college pop -- but all in all it's a pretty consistent set of punk songs. No liner notes, which seems strange for a compilation effort. (LP/SW)

*****

Various Artists, "Greetings From the Industrial Waste Wonderworld" (Blank C-60 & 3 22-cent stamps from Whitewall Tapes, 968-B Snowfall Spur, Akron, OH 44313): A good introduction to the Whitewall Tapes artists. Side A is like listening to a bunch of basement practice sessions, with lots of acoustic guitar, though the vocals from Moonlove stand out. The B side is more daring, with folks like the Chinese Electrical Band and their strange approach to music, the vocal rhythms of Whistledicks, and a couple of high-power tracks from the Crummy Fags. (T/MG)

*****

Various Artists, "I Thrash, Therefore I Am" ($4 from BCT, PO Box 16205, San Diego, CA 92116): A collection of international hardcore, all fast, all loud, but varying in quality. There's an international cast here, with the high points being the hi-energy thrash of Britain's Xpozez and the incredibly relentless beat of the Danish band Enola Gay -- makes me want to go out and find more Danish hardcore. (T/MG)

*****

Various Artists, "Montreal Postmoderne" (Canadian Music Centre, 20 St. Joseph St., Toronto, ONT M4Y 1J9, CANADA): This is the sort of "contemporary music" your music teacher had in mind when she used the phrase -- sort of modern classical stuff. The composers here are almost maddeningly experimental while staying within fairly precise orchestral bounds, producing pieces which are both challenging and halfway familiar on the first listen. John Rea's strangely looping "Treppenmusik" is the highlight here, along with the posthumous "Pour violon et clarinette" by Claude Vivier. A high-quality change of pace. (LP/MG)

*****

Various Artists, "So This Is Newark" ($2 from Jerry Lehane, PO Box 0614, Newark, DE 19715-0614): In addition to this comp Jerry has his own band the Moaners, and he urges people to network his stuff and pass it along. I'm sure he'd love to swap for what you're doing. The music features on this tape is poppy and rooty, nothing too difficult, so devotees of the outre beware. Jerry's own band is probably the best of the bunch. (T/SW)

*****

Various Artists, "Sump" ($4 or $3.50 & 2 stamps from Craig Blomquist, 48 Beck, Lindenhurst, IL 60046): The latest release on the Cud Brain Tapes label, this is a good value. Theatre of Ice as their usual eerie selves, Izabella plays everything from bleating sheep to just plain strange noises, Alien Planetscapes contribute an ambient track, and Elegant Doormats throw in some melodic, sorrowful pop. But the hidden gold here is the last couple of tracks from the Dark SIsters, pleasant rock with up-front female vocals. Only a couple of clunkers in amongst the 8 groups on this one. (T/MG)

*****

Various Artists, "View From Below" (Demented Mind Mill, 423 N. Creston #154, Mesa, AZ 85203): The first in a series of compilation on the label that's offered Theatre of Ice, the Third and Oblivion Now. As well as the first two of these, the tape includes cuts from Amor Fati, Psychodrama, Anatol Sucher and Arms of Someone New -- among others. Packaging is detailed, with addresses for everyone and cool art. Consistently moody music with some pieces being positively sinister. (T/SW)

*****

CLAY VAUSE, "Film Nocturnal" (GGE Records, PO Box 5038, Kent, OH 44240): This tape should probably have gone to our poetry reviewer. By the title I figured it would be more snoozearama like Durutti Column, but instead the emphasis is on the words, often purely spoken, and the accompaniment is minimalist and uninteresting. I won't be listening to this again but the words are reasonably potent and some of you might wish to inquire after this six "song", 18-minute promo. (T/SW)

*****

VIKTIMIZED KARCASS, "Traumatized at 35" ($5 from Harsh Reality Music, PO Box 241661, Memphis, TN 38124-1661): One side features demented twists on original and copped rock riffs, such as a version of "Mississippi Queen" buried in "Just a Drug Test". The other features cuts that sound variously Islamic, reggae, New Age and Mick Jagger-like. All in all the many-faceted VK has done it again with a consistently interesting and sophisticated set of experimental rock. (T/SW)

*****

VOLCANO SUNS, "Bumper Crop" (Homestead Records, PO Box 570, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-0570): 3rd release from this dense Boston band, though the only steady member is drummer/songwriter/singer Peter Prescott, so it's amazing that the sound is as consistent as it is. That sound is very straightforward thumpin' rock. It's nice to see a quality act sticking with Homestead, as well as writing their own liner notes. Good stuff -- pop sludge indeed! (LP/SW)

*****

WALLMEN, "Mr. Happy Man" ($3 from 7711 Lisa Ln., N. Syracuse, NY 13212): This SubGenial band seems to be an irrepressible force, filling magnetic tape with their brand of weirdness faster than you can say "Boo", er, "Bob"! Though they're anchored in rock they move around from dirges to C&W, meanwhile reminding us that there's not much difference between the first amoeba and the last human being, or droning on about some Meathead, or basically just hallucinating. Complex and drastically, non-commercially Different. (T/MG)

*****

THE WARNING, "A Virgin in the Midst of Whores" (124 S. Lemon, Azusa, CA 91702): The second release by this "radical Christian band". Not as nauseating as Stryper musically and not nearly as intense as Florida's The Lead. A metal band with more gruff than castrato vocals and a mix off speed with pure power metal. Lyrics are sometimes sarcastic in a way which would confuse a first time listener -- they make fun of inadequate Christians. Definitely a repent or die bunch. (T/SW)

*****

BILL WEITA, "More Music That Doesn't Suck" ($5 from Col. Tom Productions, PO Box 257, Kent, OH 44240): Sit down, slide this into the stereo, and prepare for noisy encounters of the musical kind. Lots of buzzing, distortion, and experimental instrumental meanderings here. Some good stuff is to be found, but at times it all tended to blur into one long song. "Interstellar Overdrive" on side two snapped me out of it, though -- it's handled as well as if it had been Pink Floyd. (T/CS)

*****

MICHAEL WELCH, "The Neanderthal Yodeler/I Need a Gig" (Illegal Radio, PO Box 3625, Orlando, FL 32802): Proof that drum machines and synthesizers should be licensed. The lead cut, a story about, indeed, a Neanderthal Yodeler, might be strange enough to garner some Dr. Demento airplay. The rest of these 2-person exercises in self-indulgent sampling and babbling don't even rate that highly. (LP/MG)

*****

WHIPLASH, "Ticket to Mayhem" (Roadracer Records, 225 Lafayette St. #709, New York, NY 10012): Never has a name been more suited to a band than Whiplash's. And never has an album name been more appropriate than this. At a time when most metal is becoming redundantly unoriginal, Whiplash burst into your stereo with a blast of supersonic speed and energy and proceed to violently thrash your eardrums to a satisfying pulp at a pace that would leave most other bands gasping for breath. Warning: not for those with heart conditions or high blood pressure. (LP/CS)

*****

MUSICAL NOTES:

* ENIGMAZINE (El Segundo, CA 90245-2423) is the PR organ for the various Enigma labels, including Restless, Metal Blade, and Medusa. They put out some decent music and some things your mother wouldn't want you listening to. A buck will get you their catalog, but this zine may be only for us movers and shakers.

* GGE RECORDS (PO Box 5088, Kent, OH 44240) sent their catalog #6 of punk, experimental and miscellaneous tapes. Copies are free, but it wouldn't hurt to send a stamp.

* MASTER/SLAVE RELATIONSHIP, which is Debbie Jaffe recording on Hal McGee's Cause & Effect label, has released a booklet of lyrics and images. Titles simply "darkness", it's 20 pages long and filled with the same torridly sexual images of domination and submission and love that inform Debbie's music. $3 from PO Box 30383, Indianapolis, IN 46230 or write for information about MSR tapes.

* Playlists received:

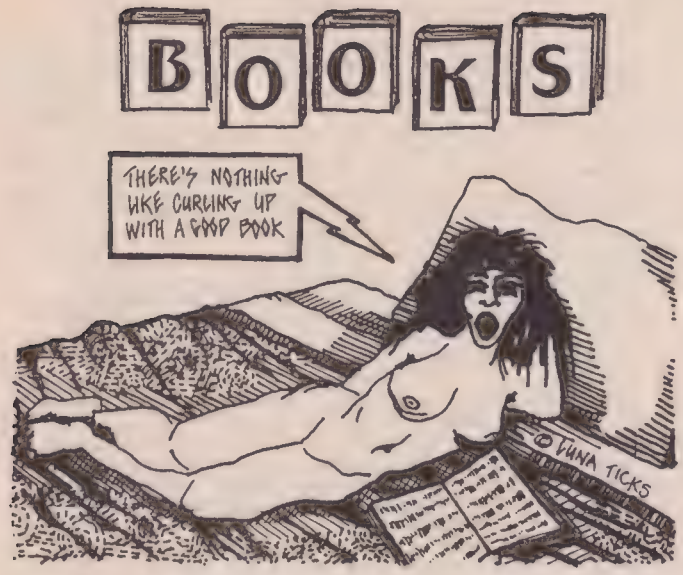
KAOS 89.3 FM, CAB 305, Olympia, WA 98505. The station at The Evergreen State College. Their list contains basically everything they received because they add 'em all.

WKDI, 544 College Ave., Dekalb, IL 60115. Almost all-indie playlist, local store sales reports, published weekly. (S-2r)

* Trottel Distribution (c/o Rupaszov & Asztalos, 2085 Pilisvorosvar, Pisztrang u.7, HUNGARY) claims to be the only indie cassette label in Hungary. They're willing to swap for fanzines and tapes.

* Just in case I didn't make it clear last month, you should know that the profits from the VIVA UMKHONTO compilation are going to buy guns for the ANC South African revolutionaries.

* XKURZHEN SOUND (Michael Jackson, State House PO Box 207, Boston, MA 02133) has a new address and a new catalog of cassette-only experimental and industrial releases. An SASE should get you a copy.



AES-Nihil, I WANT TO KNOW GOD ($3 (?) from PO Box 613, Reseda, CA 91335): A publication designed to offend nearly everyone except for a few hardcore art defenders. This is basically a Sunday School text with graphic illustrations and nasty graffiti intercut. Much is made of connections with the Manson family, jockstraps, and homosexual pornography. The publishers are into other strange and unaccepted byways. (S-64)

*****

William Arkin, THE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE AT SEA (Greenpeace, 1611 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20009): This is the first of a planned series of "Neptune Papers", put out jointly by Greenpeace and the Institute for Policy Studies. The idea is to support Greenpeace's campaign for nuke-free seas with academic crossfire. This particular paper is devoted to laying out "just the facts": who's got what on the oceans, what the major powers' strategies are, and what the dangers are. Of course, I'm not qualified to judge if these are the facts, and probably you aren't either; still, it's worth seeing a side of the story that's not put forth by the policy planners in Washington. (S-46t)

*****

Eileen Arnow, DEATH MADE SIMPLE ($2) and THE FAVORITE PASTIMES OF ROTTEN CHILDREN, OLD PERVERTS AND SMALL ANIMALS ($1) (from 66 Edna Ave., Levittown, NY 11756): DMS is a booklet of "Activities for All Ages", including coloring pages, a crossword, connect the dots and more. No, this isn't your standard liberal "get the kids gently acquainted with grief" book. Instead, it's a morbid little parody, with pictures of strangled cats, little boys falling down, post-nuclear coloring, and more. An amusing novelty for those of us whose taste is all in our mouths. (D-12t)

FAVORITE PASTIMES... is in the same vein. One can think of this as a field study of a small ecosystem, illustrated with classy but disgusting drawings. All three components depend on one another is disturbing ways. Don't show this to your parents. (M-3)

*****

Lester Bangs, PSYCHOTIC REACTIONS AND CARBURETOR DUNG (edited by Greil Marcus) ($19.95 list from Alfred A. Knopf): Yeah, this is a major market book, but Bangs was pretty much the fringe type himself, so it at least deserves a mention here. Bangs wrote strikingly original (and for the most part terribly self-indulgent) rock criticism for places like CREEM and ROLLING STONE and VILLAGE VOICE, before dying accidentally (so says his editor) in 1982. Five years later we have, if not the definitive Bangs, at least a darned good collection.

Lester had a real way with words, and his reviews and essays are only secondarily information sources; primarily they're struggles with his own demons and through them with the reader. Some of the pieces included here are real gems. His review of "Chicago at Carnegie Hall" is one of the most vituperative yet concise screeds it's been my pleasure to read in a long time. His love/hate relationship with Lou Reed, peaking in a hilarious review ("The Greatest Album Ever Made") of Metal Meltdown Mania is a classic. And 1979's "The White Noise Supremecists" is a penetrating critique of racism in the punk underground. Admittedly, many of the other pieces are little better than howling demands that the reader enjoy Bangs' favorite records, but there's a certain fascination even in those. Anyone who liked the music of the 60s and 70s (the innovative stuff, not the disco crap) will find both memories and new viewpoints in this book. (391pp. hc)

*****

The Very Left Rev. Dr. Magistra Batrix, THE HAPPIEST CHRISTMAS TREE ($3 from Dragwyla, PO Box 45792, Seattle, WA 98145-0792): This was seasonal when it arrived; it's not my fault if the FF publishing schedule isn't properly attuned to the equinoxes. Anyhow, this is definitely a Christmas tale, replete with all the trappings of the holiday, notably strong drink and a Christmas Tree. And the ending...well, let's just say that the last line is in the best Feghootish tradition and leave it at that. Quite clever, really. (D-12r)

*****

George Bradford, HOW DEEP IS DEEP ECOLOGY? (75 cents from Fifth Estate, PO Box 02548, Detroit, MI 48201): Subtitled "A Challenge to Radical Environmentalism", this is a special issue of FIFTH ESTATE, the well-known Detroit anarchist paper. The bulk of it is Bradford's long essay, wonderfully illustrated by Freddie Baer, devoted to analyzing the ideology of Earth First! EF of course claims to be the most radical and consistent of the groups opposing harm to Nature; the question is, what is behind this rhetoric?

A lot of disturbing assumptions, according to Bradford. His chief complaints are reliance on obsolete science as justification and an outright fascistic approach to human beings. On the first count, EF relies heavily on Malthusian and Darwinian notions of survival and die-off, holding that one of our major problems is that there are more people than the earth can support. The problem is that there is plenty of evidence that this simply isn't true -- the food and resources are there, the distribution system sucks. On the second count, various EF officials have suggested letting the poor starve to death and keeping them out of the US so that we don't become the victims of the same sort of hunger catastrophe as the third world.

Bradford makes a good case -- it will be interesting to see if EF, a rather monolithic organization that has paid scant attention to critics in the past, will bother to answer the charges. If not, that will be an answer in itself. The pamphlet also contains a reprinted essay from ALIEN-NATION, a publication by some former Earth Firsters who are likewise disturbed with the centralistic dogma of the EF organization. A thoughtful set of essays and one that could lead to an interesting dialog if all involved are willing to talk. (S-40t)

*****

Lawrence Bush & friends, BABUSHKIN'S CATALOGUE OF JEWISH INVENTIONS ($6 from 30 Old Whitfield Rd., Accord, NY 12404): Religious humor in a cheerfully irreverent mode. Of course, this one won't mean anything to people with at least some inkling of Jewish customs and traditions; nor could a non-Jew get away with writing it. But, aided by Dick Codor's illustrations, Larry pulls it off pretty well. Sample items: Dial-A-Mom, Monarch Notes to the Talmud, and Live Gefilte Fish. (D-32t)

*****

Capitol Information Associates, CIA PAPERS, VOLUME 1: BLUE BIRD, ARTICHOKE, MKULTRA ($14.95 from PO Box 8275, Ann Arbor, MI 48107): A collection of US government documents apparently obtained via Freedom of Information Act requests, judging by how heavily censored they have been. They all relate to CIA activities in the 1950s and 1960s aimed at developing ways to alter the behavior of human subjects. All sorts of things were considered: lobotomies, brainwashing, drugs, even feeding of mutant vegetables that would cause dietary deficiencies leading to confusion. All in all, it's a pretty disgusting story, and more than enough remains in these pages to give the reader a strong sense of how it went. Of course, we all know the government has reformed its ways since then... (S-152)

*****

Linda Day (compiler), AN ENCYCLOPEDIA ABOUT ANYONE ($1 and a couple of stamps from 1725 E. 115th, Cleveland, OH 44106): Just what the title says. This book includes little slices of life and thought from 66 people: underground writers and publishers, mail artists, musicians and other marginals. At least half the names should be familiar to the fanatical readers of FF, including my own. (Yes, I'm in here, and I'm not going to tell you what I said about myself; buy your own copy and see). This works out to be a sort of journey through unaverage life across the country (and across the oceans, for that matter). Overall, it's sort of fun, and helps you get to

know the principles the same way that looking through their collected snapshots would. Linda is now collecting entries for a second volume, so send for this one if you're interested in contributing to the project. (S-20)

*****

Paul Dilsaver, STORIES OF THE STRANGE ($3 (?) from The Academic and Arts Press, PO Box 1621, Pueblo, CO 81002): This slim collection of short stories comes to us courtesy of the folks behind BLUE LIGHT REVIEW, who seem to have pretty good taste. In six little stories Dilsaver gives the reader a lot to think about, in carefully crafted prose and oddball imagery.

The collection opens with a shock, as the students of the Last University are taught how to mine for their food in the only uncontaminated spots left after a disastrous nuclear war. After that things move closer to home, with a story of conceptual art as seen by the artist's mother rather than some big-name art critic. The legacy of Adolf Hitler figures in two more stories, as the twisted legend echoes down through the decades, the dead Fuhrer's power still palpable in these pages. Finally, things close with "The Last K-Mart", a paean to a vanished culture.

Dilsaver writes economically, concentrating his stories on a single gleaming idea rather than seeking to bedazzle the reader with verbal fireworks. The result is a series of sharp impacts, directed with perfect skill at the solar plexus. Beats the hell out of the NEW YORKER. (D-40t)

*****

Marc Eric Ely-Chaitlin, CONSTITUTION PAPER #3 ($1 (?) from Central News Service, PO Box 7075, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677): This paper concludes Marc's revisionist look back at the Constitution (Parts one and two covered the Founding Fathers and the Constitutional Convention, and are probably still available). In it, Marc analyzes the document itself, article by article. His primary argument is that it is a document devoted to preserving power for an elite, and he makes a decent case for this. As he says, "The people were not left out by mistake." In the hoopla surrounding the bicentennial of the Constitution, documents like this should get wider circulation as a welcome means of balance. (S-20)

*****

Two from the FBI Project ($5 each from PO Box 8275, Ann Arbor, MI 43107):

THE FBI AND YOUR BBS: This is an interesting and valuable study. It starts with a general history of the Bureau of Investigation's general disregard for the Constitution, and then presents excerpts from the new Electronic Communications Privacy Act. Building on this, author Glen Roberts suggests a method that will make it a criminal action for an FBI agent to snoop around on your BBS. Of course, this doesn't mean they won't do it, but if you catch them, you can raise a hell of a stink. (S-20t)

FBI "BLACK BAG" JOBS - AN HISTORICAL OVERVIEW: This is a reprint of part of the "Final Report of the Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations with Respect to Intelligence Activities, United States Senate, April 23, 1976". What that means is that if you have access to a decent university library you can get a copy to read for free. Otherwise, this report is likely to annoy you if you've the slightest concern for civil liberties; it documents that the FBI made hundreds of illegal entries to people's homes and offices without even bothering to keep records. (S-22t)

*****

Feral Faun, THE DANCES OF THE DISCORDIAN DERVISH and RANTS ($2.50 each [checks to David DeVries] from PO Box 48, Monte Rio, CA 95462): A pair of chapbooks from a person who seems to be into a rather far-out lifestyle and is trying to spread the word. Faun wants everything and wants it now; but his everything may well not be the same as yours.

DANCES is a book of ecstatic writings, ranging from poetry to prose. They have an overall pantheistic feeling; the whole universe is to run and jump and play with and, yes, love (sexually and otherwise). Odes to chaos are liberally intermixed with those to more mundane subjects.

RANTS is the outline of a philosophical tome, though certainly not a heavy one. Faun argues for chaos and anarchy (but not for anarchism) and fun and loving and beauty and truth and all that other good stuff. Diverse subjects from madness to AIDS to the free market are touched upon, and in all respects, Faun demands nothing less than total abolition of the current order in favor of a free and flowing disorder. Well, it's an intriguing idea, though one I have not the courage to endorse myself. But the case here is almost persuasive. (each D-48r)

*****

Bolton Hall, SELECTIONS FROM FREE AMERICA AND OTHER WORKS (Loompanics Unlimited, PO Box 1197, Port Townsend, WA 98368): Hall is a relatively unknown example of the "Native American Anarchist" -- heavily interested in the free market as a means to freedom, given to long passionate arguments against economic abuses, and mildly mystical about the benefits of his system to the everyday man. In this text Loompanics has resurrected some of Hall's publications from the early part of this century. The overall tone varies between the Georgist and the Tolstoyan, and is often distant from today's concerns; what, for example, are we to make of arguments turning on statistics put forth during the 1900 Presidential race? Libertarians, Georgists, and similar folks will find writings here to support their views, and perhaps new rhetoric for their mills; others are likely to find this morsel too tough to chew. (200pp. tpb)

*****

William Hutton, MOST HIGH ILLUMINATIONS ($3 (?) from Arjuna Library Press, 1025 Garner St. Box 18, Colorado SPrings, CO 80905): A round-table discussion on the nature of poetry, art, and creativity. The interesting thing about this round-table is that only Hutton is present in person; the other participants are here as quotes from their writing about writing. Virginia Woolf, Susan Brownmiller, Marguerite Duras and a dozen or so others participate. The result is interesting and more coherent than it has any right to be. (D-43)

*****

R.A. Lafferty, MY HEART LEAPS UP [Chapters 5 & 6] ($2.95 from Chris Drumm, PO Box 445, Polk City, IA 50226): MY HEART LEAPS UP is part of a longer work, IN A GREEN TREE, and it's being published in installments. (Chapters 3 & 4 were reviewed in FF23). It's not really science fiction, more like slight fantasy. Set in 1920's Tulsa, the book revolves around the exploits of a quite remarkable class of fifth-graders. In these chapters they're primarily discovering love (these kids are precocious at everything). Lafferty has an eye for detail and a love for his subject; this book is enhanced by the series of tall tales, one after another -- from the kites in the air for years on the second page to the irremovable glasses right near the end. When Chris finishes with this work, the series will be a fun little collectors' item. (M-54t)

*****

Lyndon LaRouche, THE WORLD ECONOMIC DEPRESSION IN PROGRESS and MY PROGRAM AGAINST AIDS ($1 each from The LaRouche Democratic Campaign, PO Box 17068, Washington, DC 20041): Incredible mixes of footnotes, pseudoscience, conspiracy theory and just plain kookiness. It's incredible that anyone could consider the author of these booklets as a serious candidate for President of the United States. If you're amused by this sort of thing, get the one on AIDS; it's so outrageous as to be nearly unbelieveable. (S-24t)

*****

Margaret Leonard, HEADGEAR FOR THE FUTURE ($1 (?) from Blackberry Books, Chimney Farm, RR1 Box 228, Nobleboro, ME 04555): A chapbook of short writings and fantastic collages. It turns out to be an anti-nuclear allegory, with people expressing their ideologies via their hats. The ending in happy and hopeful, though the beginning is suitably fear-laden. An interesting multi-media statement. (D-24)

*****

Anarchist Songbook

We need your favorite anarchist protest, anti-nuclear, feminist, gay, lesbian, drinking, animal liberation, bOB aVAKIAN, etc. songs for the first edition of the anarchist songbook, to be available in spring 1988. Send your songs and melodies to:

ANARCHIST SONGBOOK
c/o Wooden Shoe Books
112 S. 20th St.
Philadelphia, PA. 19103
and don't forget to plagerize....

Duncan Long, SURVIVING MAJOR CHEMICAL ACCIDENTS AND CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL WARFARE (Loompanics Unlimited, PO Box 1197, Port Townsend, WA 98368): Well, it's a nice title, but the book really doesn't do much to live up to it. I can sum up the major advice in one sentence: get the hell out of there. Oh, there's some stuff on medical treatment of chemical warfare, but it amounts to saying that if you're a physician you can get and apply the antidotes and if you're not, you're screwed.

Moderately more useful is the listing of possible CBW agents, though it suffers heavily from scaremongering: the Soviets are developing everything under the petri dish to throw at us. Stories of "yellow rain", for instance, are accepted uncritically, without indication of any debate. Also of use is the list of suppliers of protective gear and advice on various army-surplus gas masks and so on. But overall, this book is dedicated to scaring the reader so as to justify its own existence. (TPB-170)

*****

Brian Martin, UPROOTING WAR (Freedom Press; $8.50 from Libertarian Book Club, 339 Lafayette St., New York, NY 10012): This is an important book for the peace movement. That's because it's proactive rather than reactive, to use a bit of academic jargon. Martin breaks new ground by arguing that it is necessary to attack the institutional roots of war; reformism and persuasion of the existing elites is simply not a powerful enough strategy to gain peace.

The work is sweeping and innovative; if it lacks depth in a few places, that is only because it is trying to convey a huge alternative vision for the future. Martin starts off by discussing the limitations of the usual antiwar methods, and then describes the rock-bottom principles that he would reorganize around: social defense, peace conversion, and self-management. The middle of the book focuses on various groups and institutions that will be involved in any major social change, from the state to bureaucracies to patriarchy, and suggests methods for dealing with each. Finally, there is a section on nuclear war, arguing that the peace movement's focus on the extinction of the race is horribly disempowering, and that peace planning must extend even to fearful scenarios.

Although this is an anarchist work, it is not obnoxiously so; there's a lot that activists of all stripes can enrich themselves with here. I personally am convinced that nonviolent action is the best (perhaps only) means to acheive lasting change; this book at last provides me with the hints of a strategic framework to hold this insight. (298 pp. tpb)

*****

Mike Miskowski, SUBURBREAL DRIVE ($3 (?) from Jake Berry, Abscond, 2251 Helton Dr. #N7, Florence, AL 35630): "Suburbrealism" is obviously a portmanteau word, combinging the suburbs and the surreal. That's a pretty good description of Miskowski's fascination with the American way of life, as typified in his own magazine MALLIFE and now in this chapbook.

The beauty of this work is that Miskowski is equally at home with words and images, moving back and forth between the two with ease and grace, using letters as the link. Thus selections range from the relatively straightforward prose poem of the title piece, through somewhat jarring poetry ("Forget It Forget It" with lines crunching on one another's heels to suggest a senseless urgency), through a series of "Consumer Machine" drawings made up of various changes on a single letter, to sheerly pictorial pieces like "Roaches in Executive Positions (manipulation)", where the letters become pixels instea of phonemes. The endpoint of the process is reached in some art made via photocopy distortions where one is no longer sure what the original image was -- words, letters, pictures or just random smears on the page.

SUBURBREAL DRIVE will appeal to anyone interested in exploring some of the boundaries of language with an experienced guide. One can turn back at any point, when surface meanings have become too treacherous to perceive, or one can take the whole trip. (D-36)

*****

Mark Opsasnick, THE MARYLAND BIGFOOT REFERENCE GUIDE ($4.35 from Arcturus Book Service, 4431 Village Square Ln., Stone Mountain, GA 30083): A solid contribution to the Fortean literature. The heart of this book is the chronological list of some 219 sightings and reports of Bigfoot and similar creatures in the wilds of Maryland, half of them in the last decade. Mark also provides references for each report, and a series of sketches of the principal personalities involved in Bigfoot research in the state. While admittedly not exhaustive, this is an impressive list for someone to work with. About the only thing missing is a map showing the areas of greatest activity. (D-32r)

*****

Adam Parfrey (ed.), APOCALYPSE CULTURE ($10.95 from Amok Press, PO Box 51, Cooper Stn., NY 10276): A hot new book from the folks who run the Amok book distribution service and now the Amok store in LA, where you can buy all sorts of strange literature (including FF). This is a collection of texts strongly indicative of the current state, or perhaps we ought to say prognosis, of western society. The prognosis is not particularly good.

Adam has put together a nice batch of the strange, the obscene, the gruesome, and the just plain stomach-wrenching. Among the 30 or so selections here, grouped under "Apocalypse Theologies", "Apocalypse Art", "Apocalypse Science" and "Apocalypse Politics", a few stand out as being very far indeed off the beaten path. The interview with necrophile Karen Greenlee is a bit chilling (if ultimately pathetic.) Hakim Bey's "Instructions for the Kali-Yuga" serves as a ncie introduction to Chaos worship. Thomas McEvilley's "Art in the Dark" is the most informative and perceptive evaluation of performance art that I've yet read; with its clear breadth of knowledge and deeply disturbing pictures it's worth buying the whole book to read. Charles Fort, Wilhelm Reich and Eugenics feature in the "Science" section; and the whole is capped by a bizarre set of political theories, including some of James Shelby Downard's fantastical Masonic analysis of the JFK assassination.

Overall, APOCALYPSE CULTURE is sure to delight and distress the average FF reader, and while underground/marginal cognoscenti will find a few familiar names here (Bey, Zerzan, S.E.T.), there is a wealth of new material waiting to be discovered. Proof that the small book business is vital and worth supporting. (272 pp. tpb)

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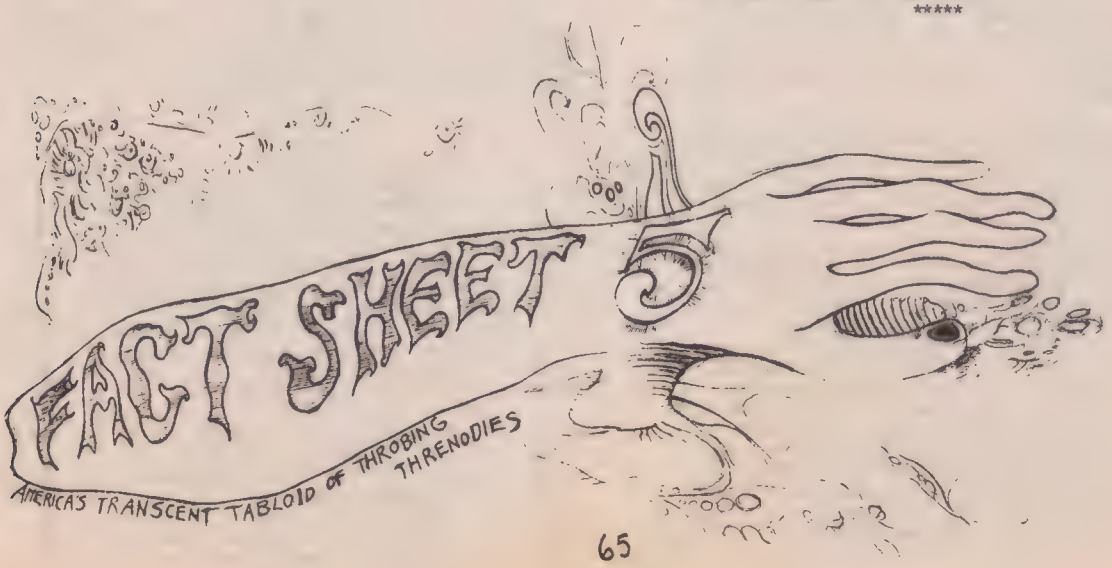

Pinball Pete, HOW I STOPPED BEING NORMAL AND BECAME A HOPELESS PINHEAD (On Request from PO Box 6032, East Lansing, MI 48826): A short comic that hovers between visual crudity and an interesting untutored style. The subject is the author's descent in to a hopeless pinball addiction, and along the way he gets into many strange byways: how to spot a bad machine, memories of a trip to the Bally factory, pinball in the movies. (D-12)

*****

Jonathan Robbins, BLOOD AND BALLS ($2 from Verlag Golem, PO Box 3414, Providence, RI 02906): Published some years ago but still available, this one bills itself as a "homosexual sci-fi epic poem". I might quibble with most of that. It's more bisexual or possibly omnisexual than homosexual, thanks to the changing gender identity of the narrator. The sci-fi is closer to mytho or fantasy; certainly there are no fabulous inventions here, though some archetypes and Goddesses swoop through. Finally, it's pretty blank verse for a poem. Still, it is intriguing, and will appeal to fans of cryptic ecstatic writings. (D-25)

*****

Randy Russell, UNIVERSE CITY ($3 from 5414 Columbus Ave., Sandusky, OH 44370): A novel from the man behind TBS publications. It's a strange sort of book, since there are four (or perhaps more) stories in one here. Pay attention and I'll try to explain: Tarek lives in a futuristic New York City that's having a dome built over it to keep the weather out. In his spare time he's writing a novel about Richard, who lives in Universe City, Ohio, with an android. Richard in turn is writing a novel about Greed City, Ohio. The main character in Richard's novel is Casey. Casey, when he's not working too many hours, is writing a novel about Sandusky, Ohio, where Eric lives. Eric is writing a novel too, but fortunately we don't get any of it to read. We do however see some of his poetry. Throw in the dreams from Tarek's notebook and you have quite a confusing shifting setting.

It's an interesting experiment, and Randy keeps it that way. The characters are all, I suspect, autobiographical to some extent. Work and crummy jobs and college and girls (especially the elusive Lisa Denzler, who wanders through all the levels of the story) are the main concerns. Randy has a fine eye for detail and a love for diners and down-and-outers and the scut jobs that budding writers are forced to take. The situations are all familiar without being stereotypical (which of us has lived in a converted porno film pad or gotten blitzed on cheap Tokay?). If the plot is a bit muddled, that's only to be expected. With Randy's style it doesn't really matter. (S-455)

*****

Ron Shegda, LIVING & LOVING IN MY REGENERATION GARDEN (Regeneration Press, 48 N. Third St., Emmaus, PA 18049): As near as I can tell, this guy is trying to combine organic gardening with a reawakening of spirituality. This short booklet is an attempt to describe an epiphany experienced while designing his own garden. It didn't make it for me; I worry more about the protein content than the theology content of my crops. (D-12)

*****

Sleeping Giant & Bird of Life Publications ($3 each from Amba R. Coltman, PO Box 85, South Chelmsford, MA 01824): Administrative stuff first: shipping is $1 for 1-3 booklets and you can get a catalog of all their pubs for a legal-sized SASE with 44 cents postage. These "mini-novels" are fun ways to stretch your mind, and though they've mostly got ulterior motives, I imagine most of you agree with the idea of making the world a better place.

EVE'S RIB (Sleeping Giant #7): In this story God gets fed up with the mess men have gotten the world into, and so She recycles everything for a new beginning. There are still mistakes, and though the players concerned think the ending is happy, I'm not so convinced. Want a chance to second-guess the Creator? This is it. (D-16)

THE GLASS SLEEPER (Bird of Life #7): This is (to me at least) quite a baffling tale. Evidently it's an allegory for some sort of personal development, concerning the career of one person who works up to a position of power in the awesome glass tower but is forced to confront the problem of mortality. Perhaps I'm blinded by my own confusion. (D-16)

THE KEYS TO THE KINGDOM: A SPIRITUAL DETECTIVE THRILLER (Bird of Life #8): Featuring Rollo Helms and his sidekick Shotwell, this is a Holmesian pastiche mixed with a large dose of New Age and otherwise spiritual and occult buzzwords. The game's the thing, not the ending; if there's a lesson, it's well buried behind some delightfully satirical writing. (D-16)

WINGS (Sleeping Giant #8): A story of winged children who get repressed by the system and the petty jealousies of their elders. It's a rather transparent parable, but one can read an awful lot into it; my own reading runs towards something about the fragility of trying to do good in this world. (D-24)

*****

Robert Swisher, AN AMERICAN LOVE STORY ($3 from Samisdat, PO Box 129, Richford, VT 05476): This is a fairly simple and direct book that nevertheless manages to work on several levels. Paul Silvers, the central character, is a Vietnam veteran who gets fed up with his job and life on Veteran's Day and heads off to Juarez to go on a binge. Ann -- we never get her last name -- is a young woman who's made it big, until her car breaks down by the side of the starlit highway. She gets picked up by Paul, and the rest of the book is made up of their conversations.

As I said, it works on several levels. Paul takes the time to talk about 'Nam, and his feelings, and his buddies, and the state of the world, slowly -- with Ann's gentle probing -- coming to new grips with life. Ann, in her turn, learns to understand, and confronts the lack of seriousness in her own, successful life. And finally, as the title hints, it's a somewhat unlikely love story, at once literal and symbolic for the mass of men (and women) still left in the shadows after our least popular war.

SAMISDAT is doing a real service in publishing not just this, but several other, Nam veterans' books. There's a reservoir of powerful feeling and writing talent there that's not been tapped as it should be. (D-72)

*****

Robert Trammell, JACK RUBY & THE ORIGINS OF THE AVANT-GARDE IN DALLAS ($5 from 3615 Brown Apt. B, Dallas, TX 75219): I'm not sure I understand this little stew, but I'll try to explain. It seems to be a new twist, or perhaps a pastiche, on conspiracy theories. The basic idea here is that Ruby shot Oswald, not to avenge Kennedy or get his name in the papers, but as a sort of performance art actions. But this is mixed up with drawings and photos of Ruby, an interrogation involving another mass murder, strippers, club dates, and other strange things. At one point the visual images overwhelm the words completely, washing them off the page. An odd conception of reality (M-84)

*****

1987 VETERANS FOR PEACE, INC. CENTRAL AMERICA DELEGATION REPORT ($3 (?) from Veterans for Peace, Inc., PO Box 3881, Portland, ME 04104): This is a collection of reflections and impressions gathered by a bunch of US military veterans who decided to visit Central America to see if they could figure out what was really going on. They stopped for five days each in Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua, and talked to as many people as they could -- US diplomatic personnel, government officials, the man in the street.

Their conclusions are profoundly disturbing. Bluntly put, either they are lying or the Reagan administration is. According to VFP, Guatemala is basically a military state with a veneer of ineffective civilian control and shitty living conditions. Honduras is in even worse shape, occupied by US and Contra military forces, with children starving to death despite millions of dollars of our money going into the country. Nicaragua is no paradise, but it's a freer place to live despite the war going on. Of the three, it was the only country to allow the veterans pretty much unlimited access -- including, for example, a visit to a maximum-security prison with tape recorders and mingling with the prison population allowed.

VFP is trying to do something about the situation in Central America, starting with getting the information in this report more widely circulated and continuing through humanitarian projects. If you're the least bit suspicious of the official US stand, you ought to read a copy of this. (S-40t)

*****

Jim Wheat, I AIN'T THROUGH LAUGHING ($2 from1202 Oriole, Garland, TX 75042): This is a curious little item. It's sort of like a small-town newspaper (or a Hee Haw episode) only parts of it have been put through a blender and parts have slipped into an alternate reality. Sample items: "The jurors seated for the Whiz Digby mental competency hearings have been acquitted for bribing the judge" and "Sometimes when I am bored, I find something in the attic to put in the blender. Then I draw a map showing where I threw it away. It's a clever way to get things done!" Anyhow, there are pages of this sort of thing in tiny print, plus ads, a map, and some music reviews, all similarly kreebled. (D-16r)

*****

Michael Ziesing, TAOISM & ANARCHISM ($3.60 from Everyday Books, PO Box 806, Willimantic, CT 06226): Mike is a good friend of mine and, I think, a man with a good head on his shoulders. (Ever notice how much that makes someone sound like a hatrack?) Anyhow, in this pamphlet he explores the connections between Buddhism, Taoism, Existentialism, and Anarchism (though perhaps none of those should be

capitalized). He doesn't try to say that they're all the same, only that there are echoes of each in the others and, in particular, that anarchists can find useful ideas in each of the other three philosophies.

I think he's right, if only because he ends up in the right place. Which is to say, he concludes that anarchy is a process that will never end, rather than a blueprint for some final revolution. More people in the movement could use to take this lesson to heart. (D-27)

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BOOK NEWS:

* Aatec books (PO Box 7119, Ann Arbor, MI 48107) have announced publication of THE NEW SOLAR HOME, a guide to photovoltaic power for your house. $20.45 postpaid.

* AMOK (PO Box 875112, Los Angeles, CA 90087) has released its "Second Dispatch" catalog of books, available for $1. They're iunto strange, bizarre and disgusting things. Lots of works from folks like Crowley and Thompson and Iceberg Slim and Burroughs and R.A. Wilson. Prices are fair.

* Black Hawk Books (PO Box 438, Stover, MO 65078) will sell you ex-Congressman George Hansen's TO HARASS OUR PEOPLE, an exposee of IRS nastinesses, for $7.95 postpaid.

* The Borderland Sciences Research Foundation (PO Box 429, Garberville, CA 95440-0429) sent their 1988 book catalog, which you can probably get for 1 buck. 32 pages of titles like THE WAVES THAT HEAL, THE METATRON THEORY, and TANTRA OF GYUTO.

* The Reverend Doktor Onan Canobite (PO Box 23061, Knoxville, TN 37933-1061) has a new introductory pamphlet for SubGenii out, titled "BOB'S" LITTLE HELPER. An SASE will get you a copy.

* Cherry Stone Press (4715 16th NE, Seattle, WA 98105) has announced the publication of Susan Catherine's OVERHEARD AT AMERICA'S LUNCH COUNTERS #7, drawing on Dave Greenberger's DUPLEX PLANET. $3.

* Chris Drumm (PO Box 445, Polk City, IA 50226) has released his BOOK CATALOG 20, which you can get for a stamp. Chris is into SF, new and used books, as well as his own line of "booklets" -- see FF24 for a review of THE KID FROM OZONE PARK, as well as MY HEART LEAPS UP (reviewed above).

* CRB Research (PO Box 56, Commack, NY 11725) is a source for catalogs of police and other "authorities" radio frequencies. Besides catering to the scanner market, they also stock odds and ends in the espionage and defense book lines. Catalog looks like it's free for the asking.

* Everyday Books (PO Box 806, Willimantic, CT 06226) is run by my good friends Alison and Pablo. Anyhow, they have a new book list out with all sorts of anarchist and feminist and philosophical and political and poetic works and what-not, including T-shirts and postcards. Good people, good prices.

* Faro Books (PO Box 215 WVS, Binghamton, NY 13905) sent me their fall/winter catalog of remaindered books. They specialize in women's studies, black and ethnic books, and family/parenting titles. Prices start around $2.50.

* Edward R. Hamilton, Bookseller (Fair Village, CT 06031-5000) sells mainly remaindered mass market editions; his tabloid catalog is 40 pages of stuff that reminds me of Publisher's Clearing House.

* Loompanics Books (PO Box 1197, Port Townsend, WA 98368) has issued its 1987 Holiday Supplement, featuring titles like HANDBOOK OF METHANE GAS PRODUCTION, THE BIG BOOK OF SECRET HIDING PLACES, and LIAR'S MANUAL.

* McClintock Books (PO Box 1949, Warren, OH 44482-1949) is still putting out catalogs, though Dave McClintock has moved to a new PO Box. For a quarter or so you can get his latest list, full of pulp magazines and Mark Twain books and collectible SF and other neat things that I wish I could buy.

* New Society Publishers (4722 Baltimore Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19143) have a bunch of books out about peace, stopping nuclear war, empowering ordinary people, and similar topics. A polite request shoule get you their tabloid flyer.

* Pierian Press (PO Box 1808, 5000 Washtenaw Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 43106) is a publisher of books about mainstream rock and roll. They've got a tabloid catalog that's probably free.

* Sourcenet (PO Box 6767, Santa Barbara, CA 93160) has issued an address change listing for the most recent WHOLE AGAIN RESOURCE GUIDE. Available for SASE.

* Tahuti/Quetzlcoatl Press (c/o Dragwyla, PO Box 45792, Seattle, WA 98145-0792) has released a new version of Magistra Batrix's SubGenius/Crowleyan spoof THE BOOK OF THE OUTLAW, together with a new set of "Commentaries" and other exegetical matter. $6 for the former or $2 for the latter.

* Thunder's Mouth Press (93-99 Greene St. #2A, New York, NY 10012) sent a catalog of their works, primarily black and Latino fiction.

* Samuel Weiser, Inc. (PO Box 612, York Beach, ME 03910) sent a copy of their "1987-88 Give-A-Book Catalog", with lots of magickal and mystical books, some at sale prices.

* Zephyr Press (430 S. Essex Ln. Dept. N7B, Tucson, AZ 85711) is into innovative learning strategies and networking. Free newsletter/catalog on request.

* Ziesing Newsletter #64-66 (On request from Mark Ziesing, PO Box 806, Willimantic, CT 06226): Mark is my source for new and used SF, and he does good work for his clients. He can get anything current and a lot that's not, has a large and interesting stock, and carries a reasonable number of collectible items. The Newsletter usually runs around 24 pages, listing new items in the store and giving honest commentary on them -- he even mentions when a book looks like a waste of money. Get a copy if you spend any money on SF, fantasy, or horror. #66 announces the imminent publication by Mark himself of a new book from Tom Disch, THE SILVER PILLOW: A TALE OF WITCHCRAFT.

FACTSHEET FIVE #5 was the first issue to be legibly photocopied, the first to be issued in reduced print digest form, and the first to admit to being a quarterly (and so, with a cover date of February 1983, it set the pattern for issue dates forever after). It was also the issue that I started charging: 40 cents in stamps or cash to stay on the mailing list. 150 copies were printed.

The reviews were starting to represent more sectors of the zine world, and there were three whole pages of them. Prominent mentions went to RHUBARB, TO APEIRON, SNAFU and CHURCH OF THE LATTER DAY PUNKS (all four are now out of business). A couple of artists had wandered into my mailbox, and ID NTITY and THE KANSAS COLLEGE OF COLLAGE received somewhat baddled reviews. (Both are still publishing, four years later). Out of 19 reviews, there are 5 people who are still on the mailing list 20 issues later.

There were still a couple of pages of short reviews of whatever books I'd been reading: TIME OUT OF JOINT, THE DEVIL'S ALTERNATIVE, Machiavelli's THE PRINCE and THE PARK IS MINE are all still on my shelves.

Finally, #5 closed with what we might call the first piece of art or the first advertisement in FF: a reprint of an early publicity effort from Earnest Mann of LITTLE FREE PRESS.

One of the flaws I see with FF5 is the potential threat of creeping standardization....Everytime you make a crack about "bad poetry" or "semi-literate zine editors" you enforce a standard....Be aware that no matter WHAT you print about ANY magazine, you are setting standards and conditions of worth on the whole variegated self-publishing world. Believe it or not, some editors and writers think that a good review from you is reason to continue and a bad one means they should quit. Some people have adopted you as their Self-Publishing Superego. Their new Mom. The modern Catholic Church. With one whirr of your disc-drive you could excommunicate them from the kingdom of the Hip.

--Sean Wolf Hill

/* Such awesome power...I guess the answer is that I think there should be standards, but they should be self-set and self-enforced. If I can tell what a zinester is trying to do and it´s done well, then I praise; if not, I condemn. At least that´s the way it´s supposed to work. As for being the arbiter of Hip, well, I guess I should start reading up on the ways Zen masters keep from getting taken too seriously by their disciples. Maybe I should send a stick with every fifth copy and let people whap themselves over the head with it. */

*****

Why not take the time to actually read zines before you review them? I didn´t appreciate you telling me in FF5#23 that my zine (The Moral Volcanoe) was devoid of editorial content. If you read it then you´d know there were definite opinions on the identity of poor people and the changes young men go through when they enter the military. Here´s my new issue, if you look you´ll find the opinions of me -- Mike the Bike. I know you get tons of stuff but I also know you can read so try, sit down and actually read it. I guess I don´t care if you like it or not, but would be appreciative of a fair review...P.S. I think FF5 is great!

--Mike the Bike

/* I guess I can´t excommunicate everyone so easily. */

*****

I think that in a year or so you might ask "traders" to cover your costs -- a dollar an issue or so, since you support them, have them support you -- if they can.

--Adam Parfrey

/* Well, I never turn down donations, but I figure the rest of the small press is in the same financial stew that I am. Now, in another few years, if FF is facing oblivion due to finances, I might make such a plea... */

*****

Re your review of MISSING PERSONS: What does CYA stand for (and am I the last to know)? Cute Yet Absurd? Calculated Yokel Attractant? Curious Yellow, Am I? Christian Youth Advisory? Cosmetic Yankee Artifice? Codified Yiddish Admonishment? Cliches Yearning for an Audience? Curvaceous Yet Angular? Commercial Yet Autointoxicant? I´ve Called on Yahwah & Aphrodite for help on this, but remain Clueless, Yearning for an Answer.

Finally, I´m anticipating your nod to modern life: the inclusion of independent video reviews in FACTSHEET FIVE. You already have plenty of producers in your audience.

--Joe Schwind

/* Cover Your Ass.

I´ve reviewed independent videos a few times in the past, and will be happy to do so in the future; VHS only, please. */

*****

I did a lot of my Xmas shopping thru the FACTSHEET FIVE catalog.

--Brain Prolapse

*****

@n open letter to the backroom:

dear backroom boyz & girlz,

i just saw the latest mayday and luckily made it down to the local BANANA REPUBLIC for their xmas sale. right now i´m getting my gear ready to fly down to managua with you. wow! i already feel like hemingway. just think - the front lines, the glory, the ANARCHIST BRIGADE. i hope the sandanista´s supply us with ak´s or something, but i´m coming packed just in case. that´s just the way some of us do things around here, besides, i always considered myself @n urban rambo. there´s nothing like a citizen´s militia, ask durrutti.

i have a little problem though, i´m a straight-white-male. i-know, i-know. i try hard not to be but i just can´t help it. do you thyink this would harm the sexual-gender-racial balance of the group? if so do you have any suggestions? i´ll do anything to go and if that means giving someone a blowjob, wearing a dress, putting on blackface, or even enrolling with berlitz i don´t care. all that matters is the ANARCHIST BRIGADE and out establishing solidarity with the nicaraguan people. got to go now, i see the pizza guy coming up the steps.

--viva zapata-solidarity!
victor laszlo - chicago

p.s. do you think we need to get any shots or will we get shot there?!?

*****

/* The following will be our last update on WONDERLAND, a zine suppressed by the police. I don´t know the identity of the author of this letter, and I´m not keeping the original. */

David Techter, the publisher of the defunct WONDERLAND, died shortly before Christmas (1987) of a heart attack.

Fearing reversal of a court decision made early in 1987 which dropped charges involving possession of child pornography against him, David had left Chicago and was living a low-profile existence in another state. He had hopes of reviving WONDERLAND, but didn´t have time to start the project.

Mail was being forwarded to David, and he was engaged in correspondence with several persons at the time of his death, There is reason to suspect that this correspondence and the names and addresses of those writing David are now in the hands of the authorities. At least one man feels he was approached based on information so obtained....

We have had a great many differences with David over the years and feel his open ways jeopardized several who became involved with this man. However, he was surely NOT an agent of some department of the government as some organizations and individuals have claimed. He was sincere -- if somewhat too willing to consrcipt others to his causes. But all in all, we will miss David. There are too few like him.

The "underground" press play many pretend games that they are being hounded by the government; they bore one another with tales of their bravery in writing against prevailing society. Mostly, of course, the government does not know what is being put out by them and wouldn´t care if it did.

David wrote about the possibility that child sex wasn´t as bad as murder and proposed that finding beauty in the body of a naked kid didn´t necessarily indicate insanity. That, dear Reader, took balls the size other publishers only SAY they have.

*****

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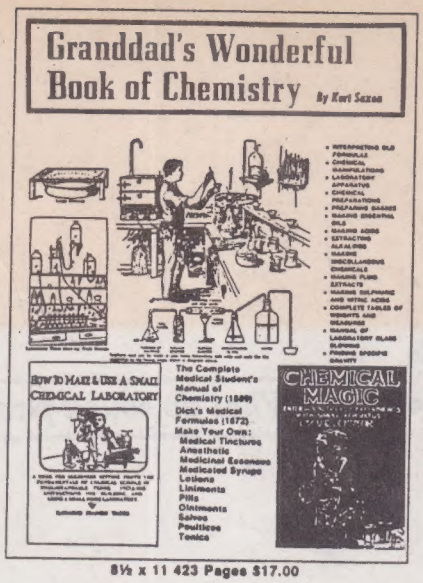

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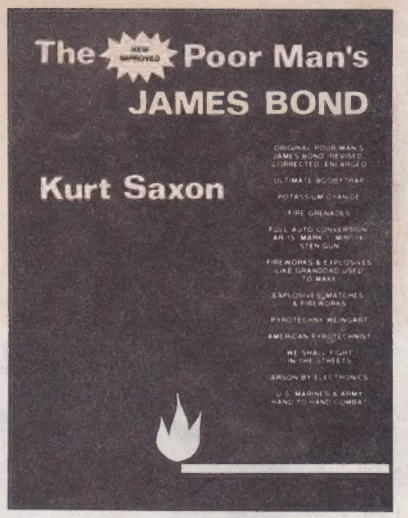

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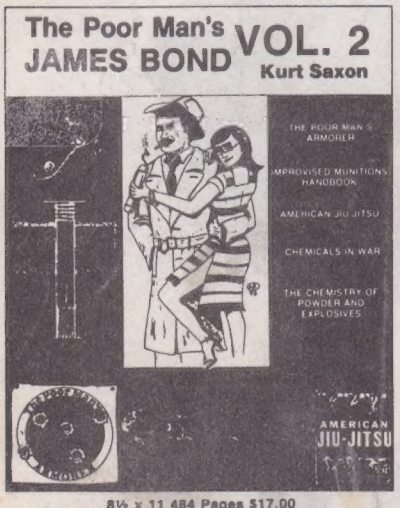

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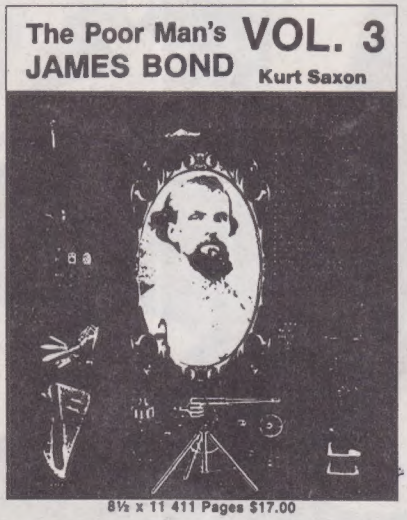

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